

AMERICAN BOARD OF TRIAL ADVOCATES
ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER

2O23 INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS &AWARDS PROGRAM

Saturday, February 4, 2023 Balboa Bay Club



ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER AMERICAN BOARD OF TRIAL ADVOCATES

Annual Installation Dinner Gala

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2023 BALBOA BAY CLUB

PROGRAM

Welcome

By Incoming President, Yoshiaki C. Kubota
Acknowledgement of Sponsors and Recognition of Dignitaries
Installation of the President and Executive Committee, Hon. Michael J. Strickroth
Message by ABOTA Foundation President Christopher J. Beeman
Acknowledgement of Student Scholarship, Zack H. Amin
Presentation of Volunteer of the Year award to Jeff Roberts
Presentation of Joseph D. McNeil Civility Award to Richard Morton
Presentation of Trial Lawyer of the Year to Gerald A. Klein
Acknowledgement and Appreciation of Past President, William Haggerty
Introduction of Incoming President by Hon. James L. Crandall
Closing Comments by Yoshi Kubota

Dinner

Baby Wedge Salad, Gen Hearts, Heirloom Tomatoes, Point Reyes Blue Cheese, Applewood Smoked Bacon, Pink Peppercorn Ranch Dressing

Entrée Duo

Seared Filet Mignon & Chilean Seabass Whipped Yukon Gold Potatoes, Grilled Asparagus, Parsnip Crips, Bordelaise

Dessert

Dulce de Leche

Walnut Brownie, Dulce de Leche Chocolate Mousse, Vanilla Creme, Salted Caramel Sauce

Please Enjoy Dancing and Music By "Vanity Fair"

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The Incoming 2023 OC Chapter ABOTA Executive Committee

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Kimberly Valentine

Christopher P. Wesierski

Douglas M. DeGrave

OC ABOTA UPCOMING EVENTS

Masters in Trial – Feb. 8, 2023

Spring Dinner – TBA

Foundation Fundraiser – June 2023 (exact date TBA)

Judge's Night – October 24, 2023

Holiday Party – December 4, 2023

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Yoshi Kubota, Esq.

"You make a living by what you get."
You make a life by what you give."

Winston Churchill.

s we are about to be sworn in as the 55th Board of the Orange County Chapter of ABOTA, the first thing that comes to mind is what an honor it is to follow all the great presidents before me. Robert C. Todd, Founding President of our chapter laid the groundwork for what our chapter is today. Our chapter was also built on the backs of some of our distinguished colleges like Richard Madory, Hon. Gregory Munoz, Jay Horton, Thomas Cummings,

Marjorie Day, Joseph D'Antony, Ben Card, Hon. Ted Howard, Peggy Holm, Ned Riley, Scott Smith, Hon. Robert Moss, Chris Mears, Carol Salmacia, Chris Day, Hon. Thierry Colaw, Mark Robinson, and many, many others. Candidly, I grew up admiring all the leadership of this chapter.

The leadership of this chapter was not only exceptional in their roles as presidents, but they were friends and mentors. Many of our chapter's past presidents and members have taught and guided me in the civility, the skill, and the proficiency that is commanded in our profession. Their leadership has taught us to perform at the highest levels of our profession. Their leadership also taught us the importance of giving back. All of the past presidents that have encouraged me, and us, to step forward and become leaders in our community and to pass on our knowledge to new and younger generations of trial lawyers.

While serving on this Board, I have learned from Past Presidents, National ABOTA leadership, and the Foundation leadership that we are far more than a lawyer social group. ABOTA serves an important role in the preservation and furtherance of our democracy. ABOTA is an apolitical organization which advocates for the protection of the 7th Amendment of our Constitution, the Constitutional right to a civil jury trial.

The advocacy for the protection of the 7th Amendment is necessary and has a price. Younger citizens and a vast majority of jurors do not know that our judicial system is a branch of government, so they are unable to appre-



ciate the vital role they play in the preservation of the 7th Amendment and our democratic government. As president, I will continue to encourage our chapter's commitment to the preservation of the 7th Amendment and to promote and improving the American Civil Justice System.

In furtherance of these commitments to our members, we will begin our year with a Masters In Trial seminar on February 8, 2023, at Chapman University. We will follow our MIT event with a continuous round of Civility Matters programs, throughout the year, to law schools, colleges, high schools, and even elementary schools. This year, special attention and effort will be poured into our

Teachers Law School program, where Judge Linda Marks will lead us through Mendez v. City of Westminster, by teaching teachers and other educators about how the civil justice system works and how it provides protections against government. Teachers Law School is a program where we educate educators about our civil justice system, as our teachers are our primary guardians of our democracy, when they teach the next generation about the rights and responsibilities of citizenship. We will support and participate in Journalist Law School, where journalists will be taught the nuances of the civil justice system, so when they report on a court case, they can accurately educate the public about how the civil justice system works. We will continue to remain focused on recruiting new members and developing ways for a more diverse membership. These commitments are not just at our local level, but they are commitments at a national level. National ABOTA and the ABOTA Foundation spearhead all these efforts.

These commitments come at a price. They require both volunteer and financial support. We are encouraged by and thankful for the outpouring of financial support from our members and sponsors in the past. During the year, we will bring back the Spring Dinner, celebrating our judges at Judges Night, recruiting new members at the Courthouse Steps, and enjoying your company at the Holiday Dinner. We are also going to ask for your participation at an ABOTA Foundation Event and our Annual Golf Tournament, where we will introduce our first ever silent auction to support the Foundation.

Welcome OC ABOTA to a new year and I look forward to serving as your 2023 President.





Congratulations to the 2023 Honorees

Gerald Klein
TRIAL LAWYER OF THE YEAR

Richard Morton

JOSEPH D. MCNEIL CIVILITY AWARD

Jeff Roberts
VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

and the Incoming Officers

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CODE OF PROFESSIONALISM

As a member of the American Board of Trial Advocates, I shall:

Always remember that the practice of law is first and foremost a profession.



Encourage respect for the law, the courts, and the right to trial by jury.



Always remember that my word is my bond and honor my responsibilities to serve as an officer of the court and protector of individual rights.



Contribute time and resources to public service, public education, charitable and pro bono activities in my community.



Work with the other members of the bar, including judges, opposing counsel, and those whose practices are different from mine, to make our system of justice more accessible and responsive.



Resolve matters and disputes expeditiously, without unnecessary expense, and through negotiation whenever possible.



Keep my clients well-informed and involved in making decisions affecting them.



Achieve and maintain proficiency in my practice and continue to expand my knowledge of the law.



Be respectful in my conduct toward my adversaries.



Honor the spirit and intent, as well as the requirements of applicable rules or codes of professional conduct, and shall encourage others to do so.



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THE ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER RECOGNIZES THE PAST PRESIDENTS FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION IN FOSTERING THE IMPROVEMENT IN THE ETHICAL AND TECHNICAL STANDARDS OF PRACTICE IN THE FIELD OF ADVOCACY AND PRESERVING THE SEVENTH AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION

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Congratulations

TRIAL LAWYER OF THE YEAR

Gerald (A. Klein





JOSEPH D. MCNEIL CIVILITY AWARD

Richard Morton





VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Teffrey T. Roberts





&

The Incoming 2023 Executive Board Members



PAST PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By William C. Haggerty, Esq.

ell, as they say in the movie industry, "That's a wrap." Not for this wonderful organization by any means, but for me as your President. What a great year we had and what an honor for me to have led this Orange County Chapter for the past 12 months. It has been the highlight of my professional

career and something that I will treasure forever. We met our goals this year by becoming more involved in the community with the education of our young lawyers, law students, teachers and high school students. Our Teacher's Law School held at the Mendez Memorial Park and Historical Trail was a first for that location. We have committed this year to funding transportation for Orange County high school classes to take field trips to learn about the Mendez family and the seminal Mendez v. Westminster case. We gave civility matters programs to lawyers and to high school mock trial competitors. We gave a four-part, professionally video-taped Masters in Trial Program free of charge to all lawyers. We attended various local bar association meetings in an effort to expand the presence of ABOTA in many of our minority communities and increase our diversity. Our Chapter remained



true to its core values of defending the Seventh Amendment and promoting civil trial advocacy.

None of what was done could have been accomplished without our unbelievably talented and committed Executive Board. Yoshi, Pam, Juan, Deborah and Jennifer were amazing and did all the heavy lifting. New Board Member Keith

More is a tremendous addition as well for 2023. Our team at California Advocates Managment Services (CAMS), led by executive director Jenny Blevins, and assisted by Trisha Slattery and Maddy Dowler, was instrumental in keeping us organized and functioning efficiently. I am deeply appreciative of all their efforts.

Finally, thanks to Chris Wesierski who demanded my transfer from LA to the Orange County Chapter many years ago; Judge Linda Marks for nominating me to the Board; and to my long-time friend Mark Robinson for encouraging me to get involved with the Orange County Board in the first place. I have so many good friends in this organization that I truly relish the few times that we can all get together each year. What a fantastic organization. Thanks for the ride of a lifetime! Over and out.



Klein & Wilson Congratulates GERALD A. KLEIN

Winner of the
Orange County Chapter of the
American Board of Trial Advocates
Trial Lawyer of the Year Award



Klein & Wilson would also like to congratulate all the 2023 Executive Committee members.

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ABOTA FOUNDATION

Let's Keep This Train A-Rollin'

By Chris Beeman, Esq.
President, ABOTA Foundation

n 1983, Randy Newman wrote the pop tune "I Love L.A." but being a Northern California resident, that phrase still gets caught in my throat. As the ABOTA Foundation President in 2023, however, I have no hesitation singing the praises of your chapter in a song that would be titled "We Love the O.C.!".

For many years, the Orange County Chapter has been the standard bearer for all ABOTA chapters across the country. Your chapter financially supports the Foundation at an unmatched level, encourages members to support the Foundation individually, and has members actively involved on every programmatic, fundraising, and governance effort the Foundation undertakes. The overwhelming generosity you people have displayed towards the ABOTA Foundation is truly unrivaled.

The ABOTA Foundation is the train that drives ABO-TA, and your chapter truly provides the fuel and person power that energizes the Foundation Train in every way possible. Few chapters in the country have two Foundation Trustees serving



simultaneously, but you do (Deb Tropp and Pam Liosi-Traut). You supply both equity and sweat equity, and for that, I must start by saying "All Aboard!" And "Thank you!"

Kudos and Exploring New Territory

Your very own incoming chapter president Yoshi Kubota is one of the key contributors to the Foundation. Under his oversight of the Foundation's Professional Education Committee in 2022, the Foundation launched a free monthly webinar series, providing quality CLE on timely and important topics. These webinars have seen phenomenal success by reaching thousands of lawyers in and out of the ABOTA community, and

we see that expanding in the years to come. Many thanks to the Yoshi and the Chapter for the innovation and hard work.

The Foundation also strives to provide guidance and perspective on both the historical evolution of the jury system and on new developments in the legal field and how they impact our profession. In 2023, we will offer two exciting new innovative programs that will do exactly that:

1. In response to the evolving discussions around the use, misuse, and abolishment of the peremptory challenge in jury selection, the Professional Education Committee is planning A More Perfect Jury: Seating a Fair and Diverse Panel. This cutting-edge program will be a symposium of lawyers, judges and

Continued >



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law students examining the current state of jury selection, including who is included in jury service, where and how those jurors are called, and what can be done to seat a more representative panel. The program will be a multi-part series spanning the next several years with an emphasis on educating law students about the ideals of ABOTA. The first installment will take place at the University of Texas School of Law on Thursday, April 6, 2023.

2. The symposium sets the groundwork for another innovative program the Foundation will bring to you in 2023. The Modern Jury Trial will be presented in conjunction with the National Board Meeting in Little Rock, Arkansas on Thursday, October 5, 2023, and will focus on the relevance and efficacy of the jury trial in today's society, including the new challenges we face based on the evolving landscape of high-speed information. We are finalizing arrangements for some terrific speakers to join this program's terrific panel.

The Foundation's mission to promote and improve the American civil Justice system and to preserve the Seventh Amendment right to civil jury trials for future generations is a lofty one that we aim to accomplish by providing a wide range of civics educational opportunities. With programs available for lawyers, law students, K-12 students and teachers, and the public at large, the Foundation is committed to instilling an appreciation of our system in all Americans.

On the Civics Education front, we plan to mirror the monthly success of our professional education webinars with the creation of a teaching bundle to accompany the textbook For Which we Stand. A new component of the collection will be released monthly, offering activities for all grade levels. By the end of January 2024, we will have multiple cohesive activities to offer elementary school teachers.

The expansion of the new High School Civility Matters program will also be a hallmark of our civics education efforts for 2023. The program, released in 2022, will be refined based on the feedback of teachers with additional resources provided to Chapters interested in hosting. As one of the first Chapters to conduct the High School Civility Matters program, we hope that the Orange County Chapter continues to lead the charge to bring this important content to our classrooms.

Through the Foundation's new-found partnership with the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), we are very excited to support CSIS in presenting civics education as a part of employee education at corporations nationwide. This initiative will bring an understanding and appreciation of our democracy and our democratic institutions to generations of Americans whose own civics education was lacking or forgotten in their academic instruction.

Putting the FUN back in Fun(d)raising

We are grateful to Chris Wesierki for his work on the Foundation's fundraising committee as a Foundation Ambassador, and we look forward to spearheading a Chapter Fundraising Competition, encouraging all Chapters to get their members involved and to go for the gold! Not surprisingly, yet another O.C. chapter member (Doug DeGrave) is coordinating this competition across the country. While the Chapter with the greatest percentage change in Fellows participation will win the competition, providing the Foundation with more fuel for our work is a winwin for all! One drawback about your chapter's incredible past success is that your current participation will make it somewhat more challenging to outshine other chapters, but if I was a betting man, my money might just be on the O.C.

The Foundation's growth over the past several years requires that we shift our approach to fundraising. While the generous support of ABOTA members has enabled the work of the Foundation for decades, it is time for us to update and diversify that support. In 2023, we will focus on developing a comprehensive and multi-faceted plan for funding the Foundation for years to come. That plan will be put into action with the assistance of our officers, Trustees, the Fundraising Committee, and our awesome staff. Please be open to our new ideas and please keep adding fuel to the train!

Once again, allow me to repeat and emphasize a very special thank you to the Orange County Chapter for all you do to support the Foundation. You are the poster children of success. The great programs we have the privilege of organizing would not be possible without your time, commitment, effort, and generosity.

Please accept my sincere congratulations to all the officers, and my best wishes to all for a productive year.





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TRIAL LAWYER OF THE YEAR GERALD KLEIN



them. Mr. Klein's trial outcomes include a \$26 million breach of contract/fraud case and a \$10 million legal malpractice case. But the trials he cannot forget are the ones he lost.

Mr. Klein worked at several law firms, large and small, before joining forces with his best friend from law school, Roberto Brutocao, to form Brutocao & Klein in 1988. Brutocao & Klein hired Mark Wilson in 1989 and in 1994, Mr. Wilson and Mr. Klein founded Klein & Wilson.

Klein & Wilson has an eclectic practice representing both plaintiffs and defendants in high-stakes cases. The firm has recovered a quarter billion dollars for its clients and has obtained defense outcomes in "bet the company" cases. The firm focuses on business litigation and client-side legal malpractice. Mr. Klein



continues to handle a wide array of cases including legal malpractice, commercial disputes, bad faith insurance trials, and even probate trials.

Mr. Klein is a long-time member of the American Board of Trial Advocates and is the Southern California State Chair for the American College of Trial Lawyers. The Orange County Trial Lawyers Association has honored him twice as Trial Lawyer of the Year. He is the current Chair of the Orange County Bar Association Masters

Division (i.e., Old Lawyers).

Mr. Klein's wife, Mary, has bravely put up with him for almost 30 years. While Mr. Klein has had great success in the courtroom, he loses almost all arguments at home. The Kleins have two fantastic sons, Taylor and Tristan Klein, who are both attending better colleges than Mr. Klein could get into when he was their age.

Mr. Klein, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Brutocao created the Small Angels Foundation and Endowment to provide life-changing gifts of under \$5,000 to people in need.

In his spare time...actually, he has never had spare time. But that will change soon.





Proud to Support



Honoring:

Gerald A. Klein

TRIAL LAWYER OF THE YEAR

Richard E. Morton

JOSEPH D. McNEIL ATTORNEY CIVILITY AWARD

Jeffrey T. Roberts
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Celebrating the 2023 Officers!

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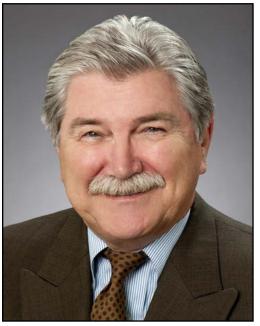
JOSEPH D. MCNEIL CIVILITY AWARD RICHARD MORTON



dignity in the practice of law-whether dealing with clients, opposing counsel and parties or court personnel. The Award recipient also seeks to resolve conflicts in a professional, reasonable and cooperative manner. He or she understands that civility and courtesy do not equate with weakness and that vigorous advocacy is not inconsistent with professional courtesy.

This year, the Orange County Chapter of ABOTA has selected Richard Morton of Haight, Brown and Bonesteel. Mr. Morton has tried in excess of a 100 jury trials, representing agricultural businesses, businesses in contract litigation, the healthcare industries and professional liability matters.

Mr. Morton practices law in a manner that epitomizes what the Joseph D. McNeil Attorney Civility Award represents. Upon being notified that he was the Award recipient, Mr. Morton said: "I am proud and humbled to be recognized by ABOTA with this award. All of the criteria for the award form the foundation for practicing law the way it should be practiced, and the room



for the award recipients will be filled with lawyers who 'practice what they preach'. The Award is a highlight of my career."

Mr. Morton went on to state: "I have been fortunate in my practice to have tried and litigated many cases with and against some great ABOTA lawyers, and I have learned from each one of them: Bill Veen, Cynthia McGuinn, the late Ron Rouda, Mike Ney and Bill Smith

in the Bay Area; Dugan Barr and Roger Dryer in Sacrament/Redding; Mike O'Dell and Arnold Anchordoqui in Bakersfield; Anthony Murray (past State Bar president), the Algorri brothers and Bruce Palumbo in LA; Trevor Quirk in Ventura; Dave Brobeck, Jim Traut, Pam Liosi-Traut, Sean Burke, Keith Bremer, Kevin Grambling, and many others in OC."

In trying cases against some lawyers (non-ABOTA members) who have demonstrated a lack of civility, Mr. Morton has forwarded to them the article written by Bill Smith from the Voir Dire magazine, Civility: Setting the Tone for Respect, (2009), on practicing law with civility, to remind them of the importance of civility. Mr. Morton has been thanked for doing so.

"The profession that we have chosen is difficult enough. It should be done with a sense of pride and a desire to practice our profession the way it should be done; with civility" - Richard Morton, Esq.,



$M \mid T \mid B$

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MTB congratulates Yoshi Kubota on his installation as President of OC ABOTA

MTB congratulates Deborah Tropp for being appointed to serve as the 2023 ABOTA FOUNDATION TREASURER

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VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

JEFF ROBERTS

n 1941, U.S. Navy Lt. Howard S. Roberts Sr., was piloting his TBF Grumman Avenger aircraft over the North Atlantic when he spotted a German U-Boat and unleased a torpedo into the water that struck its target, leading to the first time ever that a U-Boat surrendered to an attacking aircraft.

In 1966, Marine Corps 1st Lt. Howard S. Roberts, Jr. ("Scotty") piloted his UH34 helicopter "The Dog" over the jungles of Da Nang, Vietnam, when he landed in an active battle zone to pick up wounded soldiers.

Undaunted by enemy fire into the cockpit, with bullets whizzing by his helmet, he got the damaged helicopter off the ground and 20 soldiers to safety.

Inspired by his father's and grandfather's courageous military service, Jeff Roberts also chose a path to defend freedom, albeit not in the armed forces, but by attending law school and using his law degree for the greatest good by providing pro-bono legal services to U.S. Veterans through the Orange County based non-profit Veterans Legal Institute ("VLI"). Jeff's assistance to veterans led to VLI honoring him as their Attorney of the Year in 2021. Jeff regularly has 5-10 veteran clients for whom he is providing pro bono service.

Jeff is a local boy, born in Hoag Hospital and attending Laguna Beach High School, working summers at Ruby's on the Newport Pier. After getting his dual B.A. in Political Science and English at UC Riverside, Jeff departed California for law school in



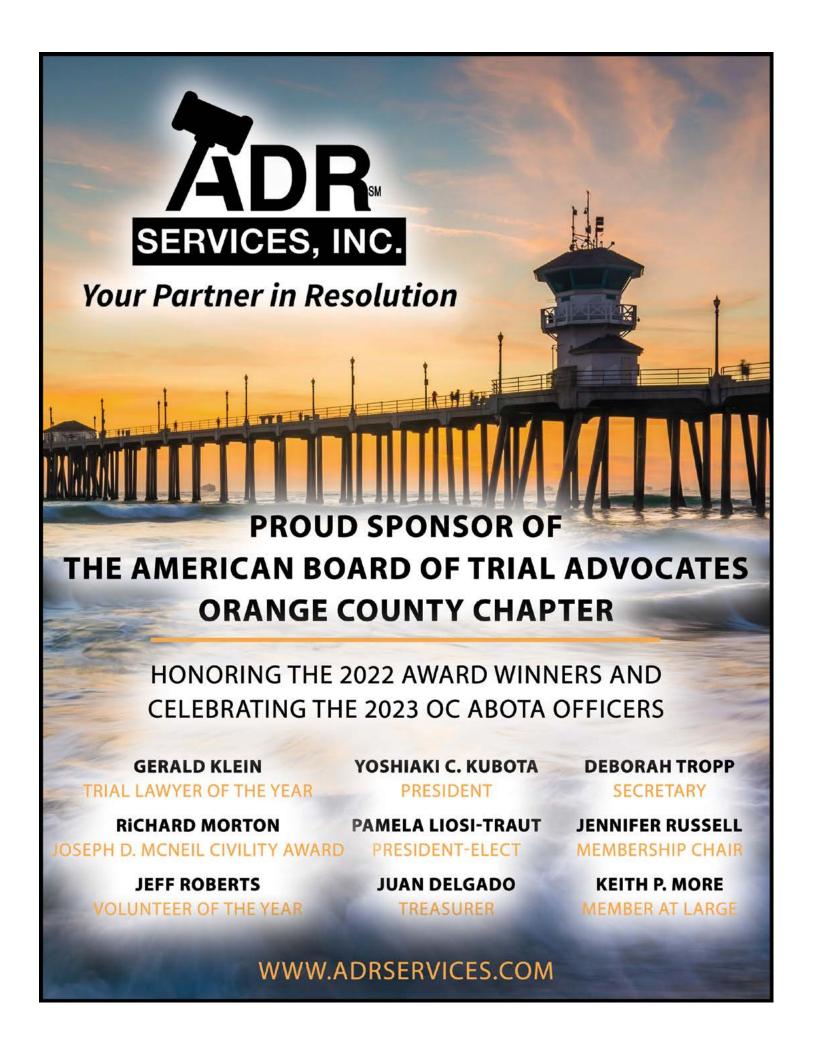
the tropical atmosphere of the University of Miami, Florida. Upon receiving his JD in 1996, Jeff returned to his So Cal roots and began working as a defense attorney before opening his own law practice, The Roberts Law Firm, in 1998, focusing on plaintiffs personal injury cases.

Jeff's volunteer service began upon returning to California when he became a Big Brother to a fatherless 13 year old boy through the Orange County Big Brother/Big Sister organization. Jeff takes great pride in steering his "lil bro" Brian towards college and 10 years later standing next to his lil bro as his best man.

Through his wife Lori Roberts' position as a law school professor at Western State School of Law Jeff regularly does presentations to first year law students, espousing the importance of civility to the students' fellow classmates as a precursor to the civility that is so important when practicing law. Jeff believes that focusing on teaching ABOTA principals early to law students is an essential tool in fostering respect among practicing lawyers.

When Jeff is not in a court, you can find him on a field on Friday nights as a high school football referee during the fall season. Jeff tries hard to employ his ABOTA civility concepts when dealing with angry players and coaches, often finding that simply listening and acknowledging a complaint is the key to diffusing a heated situation. Jeff lives in Laguna Niguel with his wife Lori and his teenage kids Cole and Caitlin.





STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP

2023 OC Chapter ABOTA Student Scholarship Recipient

ZACK H. AMIN

n 2020, a scholarship program was started to award a deserving candidate a scholarship to assist the best third year law school applicant. The program has now been expanded to a second and third place winner to try to assist more students. The candidates were asked to discuss the importance of civility and trial by jury and submitted an essay along with a resume and transcript and then interviewed by OC ABOTA Members.

We are happy to award the 2023 Orange County Chapter of ABO-TA Student Scholarship award to Zack H. Amin. Mr. Amin will graduate at the top of his class at Chapman School of Law. His law school career includes

honors, awards and impressive activities. Mr. Amin's passion for litigation started early in law school when he tried out for and earned placement on Chapman Law School's Mock Trial Team. He also succeeded in his endeavor to earn a spot on the Alternative Dispute Resolution and Moot Court Competition Teams. He has participated in a total of 9 competitions between the three teams across the United States and he also represented Chapman Law school internationally in Dubai where he earned a gold medal. Mr. Amin understands hard work as he is the first student in Chapman Law's history to serve as the President of both the Mock Trial Team and Dispute Resolution Team at the same time. In addition to leading these two teams, he simultaneously served as a Senior Articles Editor on Law Review and an Academic Fellow assisting the Dean.

The ABOTA judges were impressed with his credentials, motivation and goals and his desire to make a difference and help others. Mr. Amin demonstrated the high integrity and hard



work ethic recognized by ABOTA. He understands the importance of jury trials and that it "is one of the most important aspects of our justice system because it empowers the most important aspect of our justice system, the people"

We congratulate Mr. Amin on his accomplishment and look forward to him becoming a trial lawyer and a future member of OC ABOTA.

OC ABOTA FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Our Orange County Chapter is proud to participate in a yearly Fellowship program. The program is designed to be the closest program we know of in the legal profession that approximates the practice and learning to internships

so common in the medical field. The fellows gain valuable real life experience from the three month program. Fellows selected to the program have a unique opportunity to work with a defense firm and then a plaintiff firm and then with a Judge. The fellows gain practical experience by attending hearings and depositions and trials with the assigned firm and then valuable insight and experience with courtroom and chamber proceedings.

Fellows of the program are carefully selected and well qualified being in the top of their class with a strong interest in civil jury trial practice and the intent to work in Orange County.

We rely on local firms and judges to help make this program such a success. If you have an interest in working this amazing program, please reach out and let a board member know

PAST AWARD RECIPIENT OF THE STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

2021 – Brianna M. Milligan

2022 - Sydney Leigh Martin







CONCRATULATIONS

TO THE ABOTA TRIAL LAWYER OF THE YEAR,
THE INCOMING ABOTA OFFICERS
AND MEMBERS AT LARGE



From Everyone At

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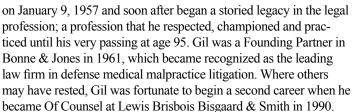
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IN MEMORIAM HAROLD GILBERT JONES, JR.

November 2, 1927 - November 28, 2022

e lost a unique man on November 28th when Harold Gilbert Jones, Jr. passed away peacefully at his Newport Beach home thus ending an unparalleled Life. Gil Jones, as he was known to many, was born in Fargo, North Dakota on November 2, 1927, to Rev. Harold Gilbert Jones, Sr. and Charlotte Chambers Jones. Gil grew up in New Haven and after graduating from the Hopkins School (where he was voted 'Most Brilliant') at age 16, Gil attended Yale University where he graduated with a Bachelor of Engineering Degree in 1947. After a few years of playing engineer, Gil set a course to complete his true calling, arguing the law to a captive audience. After attending Michigan Law School and UCLA Law School. Gil was admitted to the Bar Association



The deserved recipient of numerous awards and accolades, Gil Jones was also recognized as a leader, mentor and friend throughout the legal profession. Gil was most proud of his affiliation with the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA) having served as Los Angeles Chapter President (1980) and National President (1988) during his six decades of membership where he forged enduring friendships amongst his respected brethren.

As a young 14-year-old on the East Coast, Gil Jones fell in love with the sea and a sailor was born. From humble beginnings of sailing a skiff off the coast of Maine, Gil went on to own multiple sailing vessels throughout his life whereupon he explored the Pacific coast from Alaska to Mexico, travelled through the Panama Canal, crossed the Atlantic and sailed the Mediterranean. Gil was also a competitive sailor and competed in hundreds of boat races throughout his lifetime, truly enjoying the company of others who loved to race the wind. At one time, Gil Jones was a member of multiple yacht clubs throughout California and, not surprisingly,



attended them all regularly. In 1997, Gil was forever proud to serve as Commodore of the TranspacificYacht Club which oversees the historic Transpac Race. After moving to Newport Beach in 1987, Gil put his considerable energy into the Newport Harbor Yacht Club where, in-addition to serving as Commodore in 1998, he served with gusto as an active member on whatever task was at-hand. Gil Jones never turned down the opportunity to be on the water or to toast an occasion or to attend a club function or to meet a fellow sailor for a drink.

In February of 1964, Gil Jones went from a 36-year-old bachelor to a husband and father when he married Julie Squier, a young divorcee with three young children, which began the 50-year love story known as Gil and Julie. Julie shared Gil's sense of adventure and

spontaneity and armed with her humor and patience, they traveled the world together in search of memories and stories which they gathered in abundance. Julie was ever at his side, a true partner in Life. Whatever the purpose, Gil and Julie embraced every occasion and were most at home when surrounded by family and friends at a table cluttered with food, drinks and games. Gil was grandfather to eight who all have shared memories of boat rides with Papa Gil where he would recount various tales and adventures with his signature baritone voice. The first to suggest a game or share a story, his absence will be felt within the family for years to come.

Gil Jones leaves behind his daughter Lettice Carroll (Jeffrey), sons Thomas Jones (Jeannie) and Christopher Jones (Bobbi), grandchildren Jonathan Jones (Jeana), Wesley Carroll (Jenn), Blake Carroll (Nicole), Julie Jones (Eric), Ryan Jones, Morgan Jones, Taylor Jones and Madison Jones, twelve great grandchildren and his sister Beatrice Gallegos.

Gil was truly fortunate to have Ann Harvey in his life whose company, care and love buoyed him and made his final years some of his happiest years.

A burial at sea followed by a Celebration of Life will be held early next year, date TBD. In lieu of flowers or contributions, the family wishes that one simply raise their glass and remember Gil fondly.





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2004 Dennis Ames

2005 Andrew Hollins

2007 Nancy Zeltzer

2008 Margaret Holm

2009 James Traut

2010 Mark Poliquin

2011 Doug DeGrave

2012 Pete Gates

2013 Rob Gibson

2014 Juan C. Delgado

2015 Chris Wesierski

2017 Tom Wianecki

2018 Terrance Schafer

2019 Eric Traut

2020 Not Awarded (COVID)

2021 Jennifer Russell and Stephen A. Rosa

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

2019 Kim Valentine

2020 Pete Callahan

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP

2021 Brianna M. Milligan

2022 Sydney Leigh Martin

THE JOSEPH D. MCNEIL ATTORNEY CIVILITY AWARD

1997 Joe McNeil

1998 Byron Beam

1999 Scott Smith

2000 Dave Brobeck, Jr.

2001 Ben Card

2002 Ken W. Nielson

2003 James Reed

2004 Pete Callahan

2007 Richard Madory

2009 Thomas Cummings

2010 Dan Sullivan

2012 John DiCaro

2013 John C. Adams

2014 Ronald Schwartz

2015 Michael Maguire

2016 William Haggerty

2017 Eric Traut

2018 Robert Gibson

2019 Sean Burke

2020 Geoffrey Gray

2021 No Recipient

2022 Richard Morton



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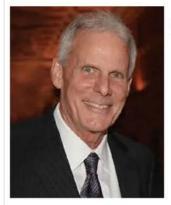
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Richard Morton

Volunteer of the Year Award

Jeff Roberts

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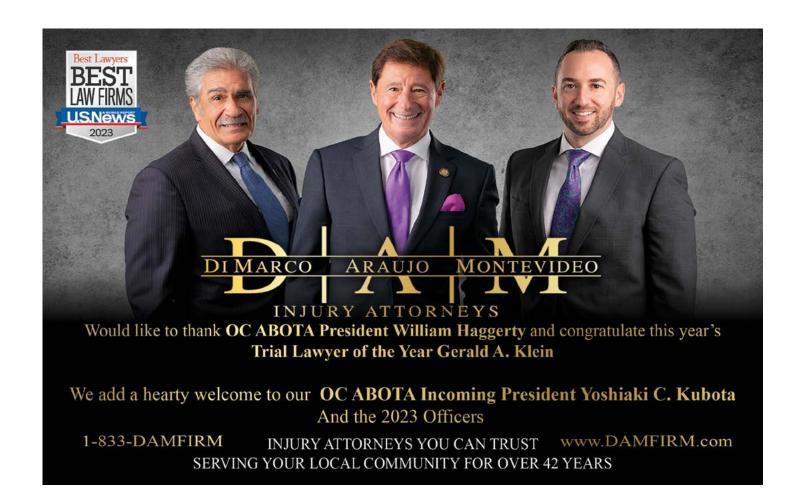
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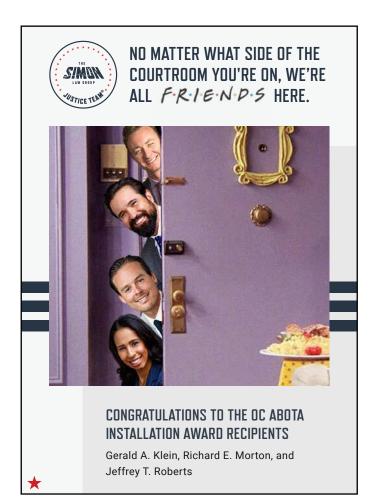


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