

COURTHOUSE RENOVATION NEWS

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The Baltimore Courthouse and Law Museum Foundation, Inc.

President: James K. Archibald / Editor: Randolph C. Knepper



Joseph K. Pokemper (left) and Peter F. Axelrad (right) receive drawings of Mitchell Courthouse for 1991 Term of Court Award, presented by President James K. Archibald (center). They were honored for their extraordinary efforts in the Bar Association of Baltimore City's Courtoom 400 Restoration Committee.

Term of Court Reception Held On October 20th

Your Foundation and the Bar Association of Baltimore City co-sponsored the third annual Term of Court Reception in the Calvert Street Lobby of the Mitchell Courthouse on October 20, 1992. Chaired by President-Elect Sheila Sachs, the reception commemorates the traditional opening of the court term and provides the opportunity to present the Term of Court

Award to a leader in the effort to restore Baltimore's historic courthouse.

This year's honoree is United States Bankruptcy Judge James F. Schneider, prominent historian of the Baltimore Bar. Judge Schneider has been instrumental in the formation of the collection of portraits which adorn the Mitchell Courthouse and Courthouse East. Along with Colonel

Philip Sherman, he is co-curator of the Baltimore Museum of Legal History. Previous awards were presented to Peter Axelrad and Joseph Pokemper in 1991 (photo above) and to Judges Joseph H. H. Kaplan and John Carroll Byrnes in 1990.

An oil portrait of Judge Albert H. Sklar was unveiled at the reception. Judge Sklar served on the bench from 1964 to 1981.

Foundation Elects Officers and Directors

The Baltimore Courthouse and Law Museum Foundation, Inc. elected James K. Archibald as President and Sheila K. Sachs as President-Elect for terms of 1992-94. Additional Officers were chosen for 1992-1993:

Marcella A. Holland, Esq.
First Vice President

Walter Schamu, A.I.A.
Second Vice President

Marc P. Blum, Esq.
Treasurer

Hon. John Carroll Byrnes
Secretary

Elected as Directors for three year terms 1992-95, joining 21 directors previously elected:

James K. Archibald, Esq.

Marcella A. Holland, Esq.

Hon. Mary Pat Clarke

Francis J. Burch, Esq.

Charles H. Dorsey, Jr., Esq.

Reed Kemp McCaffrey, Esq.

Hon. Kathleen O'Ferrall Friedman

J. Michael McWilliams, Esq.

Hon. Jacqueline F. McLean

Hon. Stuart O. Simms

Ms. Deborah Goodman

Three persons were chosen as ex-officio members:

Lisa A Gladden, Esq.
Chair, Bailiff's Inn

Hon. Robert B. Watts
Chair, Supreme Bench Society

Robert T. Gonzales, Esq.
President, Bar Association of Baltimore City

The Supreme Bench Society: Art Beautification Continues

Members of the Supreme Bench Society (former judges of the Supreme Bench of Baltimore City and the Circuit Court for Baltimore City and their spouses) inaugurated a program to decorate jury rooms with suitable art. The Society continued this tradition in the past year with generous contributions from Judges James A. Perrott, Arrie W. Davis, Robert M. Bell, and Harry A. Cole which join previous donations from their colleagues. The art is oriented to Baltimore institutions and history as well as commemorating historic events such as the Bicentennial of the Constitution and the Bicentennial of the Bill of Rights.

The Supreme Bench Society welcomed to its ranks the Honorable and Mrs. Arrie Davis. Judge Davis was recently appointed to the Court of Special Appeals.

Marriage Room Redecoration

Appropriate wall art, a new rug, refinishing of the antique clerk's desk, and the placement of a refinished and reupholstered antique matching chair complete the redecoration of the Marriage Room in the Clarence M. Mitchell, Jr. Courthouse. This effort began several years ago and was coordinated by Judge John Carroll Byrnes and Clerk for the Circuit Court Sandra E. Banks. Mrs. Banks expressed her philosophy that the marriage room should reflect the importance of marriage in our society. She thanked the Baltimore Courthouse and Law Museum Foundation, Inc. for its generous help and Judges Rombro, Hollander and Themelis, in particular.

Long Range Plan Emerges

A long range plan entitled "The 2000 Plan - A Centennial Celebration" is the top priority of Foundation President James K. Archibald. The draft, dated May 27, 1992, is a combination of ideas anticipating the 100th anniversary of the Mitchell Courthouse in the year 2000. The plan blueprints the realization of goals from the 1989 Master Plan by dividing each goal into specific steps which would be the responsibility of State and City government, the Foundation and the Bar under executive management of Administrative Judge Joseph H. H. Kaplan. Copies of the draft plan are available from Judge John Carroll Byrnes in Room 209, Courthouse East, 111 North Calvert Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202.