

Volume 18 Issue 1

THE JOURNAL OF
THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES
DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN

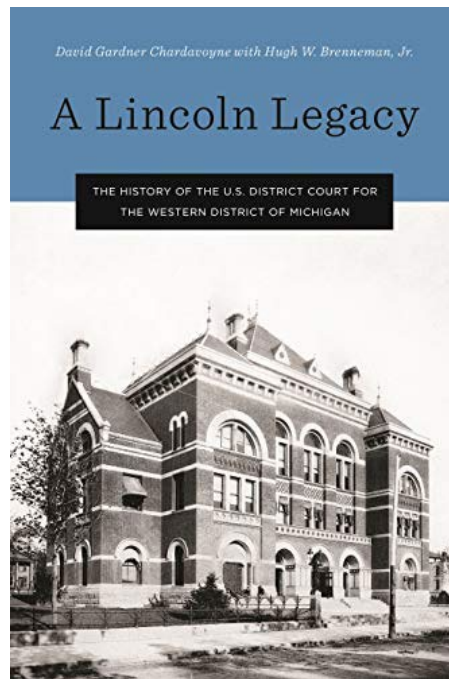
STEREOSCOPE



A Lincoln Legacy

The History of the U.S. District Court
for the Western District of Michigan

David Gardner Chardavoyne with Hugh W. Brenneman, Jr.



*History
is who we are
and why we are
the way we are.
David McCullough*

The Historical Society introduced its newly-published book on the Court's history at the FBA Annual Meeting on October 1, 2020—in an outdoor tent at Quail Ridge Country Club in Grand Rapids.

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The book took six years to complete. In 2014, the Historical Society engaged author and attorney David Chardavoyne to write it. With the tireless assistance of Court Historian Hugh Brenneman, the Historical Society, and the judges, the book was finally completed in early 2020 and published by Wayne State University Press in the summer of 2020. Publication occurred, notwithstanding some turmoil at Wayne State University Press and the many challenges of COVID-19.

The book was to be introduced at the Bench-Bar Conference in Mackinac Island, but that event had to be postponed a year because of the global pandemic.

Copies of the book may be obtained by emailing Melissa Rabidoux at Melissa_rabidoux@fd.org.

The book is a fascinating journey of our history from before the district was formed in 1863 to 2020. Below, from the book, are the Forward by Chief Judge Robert J. Jonker and the Preface by David J. Gass, President of the Historical Society.

Forward

Seven score and seventeen years ago, on March 10, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln nominated Solomon Withey to be the first judge of the newly-created Western District of Michigan. Congress and the President had created the Western District in February, over the objection of two federal officials from Detroit who wrote to Lincoln urging him to hold the bill “until Tuesday when bill will be shown to you to be absurd.” Lincoln signed the bill anyway and promptly followed through with his nomination of Withey. The Senate confirmed the nomination the next day, and Lincoln signed the commission immediately. Thank God for Lincoln!

Eight months later, on November 19, 1863, Lincoln delivered his Gettysburg Address. He stirred listeners at the time, and readers today, to honor the monumental sacrifice of that battle—and by extension the entire Civil War—by resolving “that the government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.” This court and its sister districts throughout the nation have worked to realize and secure that resolution in the daily work of deciding cases, large and small, under the Constitution and laws of these United States.

Taking stock of history is an especially fitting enterprise for a court. Honest histories inform and constrain those presently in power. The tyrants who ran Orwell’s Oceania in the fictional dystopia of *1984* exploited memory holes to arrogate to themselves the writing and rewriting of their imagined histories, rather than live within the bounds of a single honest one. In contrast, as lawyers and jurists we look reflexively to history as an integral part of our methodology, humbly acknowledging in the process the

limits of our own power and understanding, as well as the wisdom of our predecessors in office.

But honest histories inspire, too. We can see ordinary men and women step up to the challenges of their time, as reflected in the cases presented to them, and work faithfully to apply the law without regard to political, social, or economic pressure. These stories of courage in office refresh the commitment of each new generation of lawyers and jurists, and humbly remind us of the ever-growing legacy upon which we build for the short time it is entrusted to our care.

So in both constraint and inspiration, honest history is first of all humbling. And it is in that spirit that our bench and bar offer this chronicle of the first 157 years of the Western District of Michigan, and of its even longer pedigree through the Territorial Court of Michigan (1805-1837), and the original District of Michigan (1837-1863). Long may the Western District thrive and prosper in its efforts to preserve Lincoln's Gettysburg vision for generations to come.

*Robert J. Jonker
Chief United States District Judge
Western District of Michigan*

Preface

The birth of our district – on February 24, 1863 – occurred at a remarkable confluence of historical events. This was the midpoint of the Civil War, during perhaps the most perilous year in American history and at the low point of the Union's prospects for victory. Two difficult years of war remained – although, at the time, it seemed as if the end might never come. And it was far from clear then that the Union would even survive.

The events of the time were truly momentous. This was six months after the Battle of Antietam, the bloodiest day of the Civil War, weeks after President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation took effect, and days after the Union draft was signed into law. And it occurred just before the start of the spring campaigns, two months before the Confederate victory at Chancellorsville, four months before Gettysburg and the surrender of Vicks-

burg, and eight months before Lincoln delivered the Gettysburg Address. In an amazing historical coincidence, the new federal courtroom, where the Imperial Room of the Amway now stands, opened on the first day of the Battle of Gettysburg, some 500 miles away.

And it was on March 10, 1863 that Lincoln nominated Solomon Withey, a 42-year-old Grand Rapids lawyer, as the first district judge. Judge Withey served with distinction for 23 years and, during his entire tenure, he was the Western District's only federal judge.

On March 12, 2013, The Historical Society sponsored a magnificent gala celebrating the 150th anniversary of the Western District. The memorable evening at the Amway Grand Plaza, attended by some 400 guests, included Civil War era music, Civil War reenactors, the mini documentary "*Thank God for Michigan*," narrated by Grand Rapids Historian Gordon Olson, presentation of the Colors, remarks by President Abraham Lincoln, the key note address by presidential historian Richard Norton Smith, and perhaps, most remarkably, the attendance by Harold Becker, then age 95, whose father – yes, father! – fought in the Civil War.

It was this celebration of our 150-year history that inspired The Historical Society to commission a book chronicling the district's fascinating history. We approached attorney and historian David Chardavoyne, who had authored a 2012 book on the history of the Eastern District of Michigan. He eagerly agreed to research and write this one. And six years later, after much hard work and generous contributions, we celebrate its publication by Wayne State University Press.

The Historical Society is proud of this accomplishment and wishes to thank Mr. Chardavoyne, Court Historian and retired Magistrate Judge Hugh Brenneman, Chief Judge Robert Jonker and all of the district and bankruptcy judges, as well as The Cook Foundation, which generously provided a \$20,000 grant for publication. We hope that members of the bar and bench enjoy this journey into their profession's rich past.

*David J. Gass, President
The Historical Society for the U.S. District
Court for the Western District of Michigan*



FBA Annual Meeting, October 1, 2020, in an outdoor tent at Quail Ridge Country Club in Grand Rapids



*Presentation of FBA Service to the Profession Award by
Historical Society President David J. Gass to Hugh W. Brenneman, Jr.*



Co-author Hugh W. Brenneman, Jr.



Author David Chardavoyne

Teaching An Old Dog New Tricks

By Patrick E. Mears

When Judge Hugh Brenneman asked me in 2003 if I would serve as the editor of a newsletter that the newly-formed Historical Society for the United States District Court for the Western District of Michigan, little did I know that my acceptance would be a life-changing event—and all to the good. I had some experience in journalism, from being co-editor of my high school newspaper in Flint during the late-1960s, to acting as a news and feature reporter for *The Michigan Daily* in Ann Arbor, and then assuming the positions of (i) editor of the *Bar and Bench* newsletter of the Federal Bar Association of the Western District of Michigan, and (ii) editor of the FBA’s “Bankruptcy Law Newsletter.” Starting from scratch, establishing a new publication for a virgin organization, the Historical Society, gave rise to the basic challenge of how to develop a “personality” for this creation. After bandying ideas about with Judge Brenneman and others on the Historical Society’s Board of Trustees, we agreed that the Newsletter should contain as lead articles for each issue a recreation of important decisions issued by our federal district court or key developments in the practice of law in our federal district court. During my 11-year tenure as editor, *The Stereoscope* followed this general direction, publishing excellent, important and useful lead articles for the enjoyment and education of our readership. We even were able to occupy two “places in the sun” during this time: (a) the Society’s presentation to former Associate Supreme Court Justice, John Paul Stevens, of a framed collage of memorabilia related to Babe Ruth’s famous “Called Shot” during the 1932 World Series at Wrigley Field (see accompanying article), and (b) the 2013 gala celebration of the 150th Anniversary of the creation of the United States District Court for the Western District of Michigan, chaired by David Gass.

Fast forwarding to now, what follows in this article is the result of a joint request by Judge Brenneman and David Gass to write an article for publication in an upcoming issue of *The Stereoscope*. For those of you who

don’t know me, I practiced primarily business insolvency law in the Western District of Michigan from 1980 to 2014, when I retired and moved to Heidelberg, Germany, where I now reside with my wife, Cornelia Lohs, a German travel journalist. I graduated from The University of Michigan Law School in 1976 and was a partner at the following firms: (i) Warner, Norcross & Judd, (ii) Dykema Gossett, (iii) Dickinson Wright, and (iv) Barnes & Thornburg. I also acted as President of the West Michigan Chapter of the Federal Bar Association during 2001-2002, and was a member of the Board of Trustees for our federal district court’s Historical Society from 2002 to 2014.

Besides accompanying my wife on some of her travels through Europe and other continents, I have been busying myself with acclimating to living in a foreign land and involving myself in various projects of interest to me. I thought that some of these experiences might also be relevant to a good number of you, especially if you are considering the possibility of living in Europe at some time in your lives. The topics that I address below are (i) learning a new language, (ii) teaching law at a



Patrick E. Mears

foreign university, (iii) continuing my writing in various venues, and (iv) exploring my family history, which has been until recently a “black hole” in my knowledge.

Learning to Read, Write and Speak German

In order to move to Germany and live here continuously, someone like myself must first acquire a certain proficiency in the German language. As Mark Twain, who spent approximately three months in Heidelberg, noted in his well-known essay, “The Awful German Language,” being well-versed in just the fundamentals of a very complex language is not a walk in the park. This is especially true for a burned-out insolvency lawyer past his 60th birthday. (See in this context the article posted by the Mark Twain Center for Transatlantic Relations based here in Heidelberg: <https://www.heidelberg.de/1394848.html>.) Since I had no choice in the matter, I dutifully attended daily classes of three hours duration, in which I was by far and away the “oldest guy in the room” and certainly not the smartest. Nevertheless, I was able to pass the tests, at which times I received certificates evidencing my B-1 and B-2 levels of competency in the language. With those, I applied to the government for what is referred to over here as a “dauerhaft Genehmigung” (viz., permanent residency) in Germany, and after waiting what seemed to me to be a Kafkaesque period of time with fits and starts sandwiched in between, the German government finally delivered to me a formal permission to reside here, for good (I hope).

But merely receiving such permission was not enough, so I joined a group called, in English, the “German-Speaking-Circle” (“Sprachkreisdeutsch”) for foreigners like myself. The group was organized and run by a retired German-language professor here in Heidelberg, whose father had been born in Detroit. From

2016 until earlier this year, we met once a week for three-hour sessions, which involved instruction in German grammar and usage and also general conversation. Sometimes, members of “SKD” would prepare essays in German and then read them to the class, thereby stimulating group discussion. Now and then, we would take day-long excursions to various nearby places of interest, e.g., the ancient city of Worms, where we toured the Romanesque cathedral and the Jewish synagogue. However, the COVID pandemic forced this group to disband this past summer. To fill in this gap, I have hired a retired, local professor to instruct me in German via private lessons, which I have found to be extremely valuable and satisfying.



Teaching World Trade Law at The University of Mannheim

After I decided to retire but before I left the United States, I entertained the idea of teaching international insolvency law at a German university, but had no definite ideas as to how to obtain such a position. However, in a chance conversation that I had with a friend and professor of insolvency law at the University of Adelaide in Australia, he mentioned to me that Adelaide was a “sister institution” of Mannheim and that he had contacts there that might “grease the skids.” He followed through and I met with a representative of The University of Mannheim in that city before I moved overseas. As a result of that interview, the University offered me the opportunity to teach a new course on International Trade Law, because insolvency law was already being covered by a tenured professor. I agreed to this proposition and immediately set out to learn this subject. To bring me up the learning curve quickly, I attended a number of seminars on this topic here in Germany and in Brussels, and devoured



Homes along the Neckar River

literature on this very broad and meaty subject. After two years of teaching (and learning again how to teach), I felt comfortable teaching and creating study materials for my students.

Most of my students at the University were enrolled in a special program, the Master of Comparative Business Law Program, which was geared to foreign students, many of whom were already practicing lawyers in other countries. Classes in the program are taught in English, with my class meeting once a week for two hours on campus. Students who enrolled in my program were an interesting and impressive bunch, coming from places such as Russia, China, Colombia, Mexico, the Dominican Republic, Nigeria, India, Australia, and even the United States. I emphasized in my teaching what it would be like for these students to practice international trade law in an international law firm and even in a governmental organization, e.g., under the European Union's Commissioner of Trade. For my examinations, I prepared a hypothetical fact situation, in which my students would be required to spot issues, discuss them, and then develop a strategy for addressing the problems presented. The students' feedback to me concerning this approach has been overwhelmingly positive, and I hope that my approach will assist them in their legal practices in the future.

Nevertheless, all good things must come to an end, and mine did with the outbreak of the COVID pandemic. In mid-March of 2020, The University of Mannheim switched to online learning, which I found to be extremely disappointing. I enjoyed and felt most comfortable with teaching in a real, and not a virtual, classroom. So at the end of the semester in June, 2020, I resigned my position as Honorarprofessor at the University. Although this conclusion was somewhat disappointing, I found the entire experience of teaching law at a university to be very stimulating and just plain fun.

Writing Articles on Insolvency Law and Other Topics

During the past six years while living in Germany, I have continued to write articles on insolvency law, not only alone but with co-authors and particularly with my son, Edward, who is now a fifth-year, corporate law associate in DLA Piper's Tokyo office. I have pitched

the idea to him that, in an M&A situation involving a troubled business, it is often necessary to recapitalize the company in the context of a court-approved reorganization or to simply sell the entity's assets "free and clear" of liens and interests, either on a piecemeal or going-concern basis. If such a business owns foreign subsidiaries or otherwise has assets in another country, it may become necessary to commence a proceeding in the United States under Chapter 15 of the United States Bankruptcy Code, or to begin a similar proceeding under the laws of another country that has adopted the UNCITRAL Model Law on Cross-Border Insolvency. As a result of my lobbying efforts, Edward co-authored with me a three-part series on international insolvency law, published by Pratt's Journal of Bankruptcy Law within the last few years.

I have also published other insolvency law articles and have been periodically updating with my former law partner, Bankruptcy Judge John T. Gregg, a chapter on automobile industry insolvencies in Collier's Bankruptcy Practice Guide, which chapter was initially published in 2010. A different wrinkle in my writing came to be in 2019, when I prepared for a yearly conference of a Europe-based insolvency group, named the International Exchange of Experience in Insolvency Law ("IEEI" for short). This group was founded in 2000 in Cologne by Justice of the German Supreme Court, Andreas Remmert, and has, as its members, judges and lawyers from around the world. For our 2019 meeting in Cologne, we organized a panel with the title "Insolvency Stories," for which I presented a paper on Mark Twain's brush with insolvency as a result of the liquidation of his troubled publishing company under New York's "assignment for the benefit of creditors" law. This endeavor inspired me to write another article for the IEEI on the same theme, this time recounting Oscar Wilde's bankruptcy case in London, which was triggered by his criminal prosecution in the 1890s. Finally, I am a member of an organization founded at Stanford University in 1965 named World Association for International Studies ("WAIS"), which maintains a website for scholarly posts and longer articles authored by its members. I have had great fun being a member and composing pieces for posting during the past six years of my membership. For me at least, writing has become and remains an addiction, but a pleasant and helpful one at that.

Rooting Around in my Family History and Discovering Some Gems

This final subtopic began as a hobby in May of 1980, when I first visited Ireland, where I joined up with some Irish friends that I had met while practicing law in Manhattan the year before. This was a bit of a coming-home journey, since my father was of 100% Irish descent. Yet, I was deeply embarrassed when my friends asked me where in Ireland my forebears hailed from, and I could only answer that it was “somewhere in Cork.” I received a razzing for this display of ignorance and then pledged to myself that I would discover where not only they came from, but also where my ethnic-Polish forebears had been born. In pre-Internet days, this type of inquiry was extremely challenging and led to many dead-ends. Gradually, I put together a very rough conception of where these people might have come from, but it was sketchy and unreliable.

Then in 2019, Ancestry.com arrived on my doorstep. I embraced this new addition to my “family” of personal interests and introduced my son to someone who has become a very close friend of mine. Together, we have been able to construct a very detailed record of our family roots, leading to some pleasant surprises. One such surprise was learning that my family roots did not just begin with the arrival of my father’s forebears in New York City on famine ships in the 1840s, nor with the emigration of my mother’s parents from the Province of Galicia in Austria-Hungary during the first decade of the Twentieth Century. Our family’s line actually goes back to relatives who fought for independence from Great Britain in 1776 and witnessed Lord Cornwallis’ surrender to George Washington at Yorktown. One descendant of this line, Franklin Gorin, owned Mammoth Cave in Kentucky and, although perhaps unwittingly, began the tradition at the cave of African-American tour guides. See, e.g., this article in the Smithsonian Magazine: <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/enslaved-tour-guide-stephen-bishop-made-mammoth-cave-must-see-destination-it-today-180971424/>. This same individual later became a law partner of John Bell in the Nashville, Tennessee, law firm of “Gorin & Bell.” Bell, who had previously served a term as Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, would later become a United States

Senator from Tennessee and run for President in 1860 on the Constitutional Union Party. In that election, Bell won the 39 electoral votes of Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia and 13% of the popular vote. Another surprise was learning that many of my Irish relatives of the Cronin and O’Leary families had undertaken long treks out West in the period from 1870 to 1910, where they settled on ranches and farms and in mining camps. Finally, in what was the most dramatic and tangible surprise of all, was the discovery that I am related to members of the English line of the de Rothschild family. My first cousin once removed, who was raised in Palm Beach and Manhattan, had married Sir Evelyn de Rothschild in 1973 and one of their children (also my cousin) is David de Rothschild, who is a well-known environmentalist and advocate for cleaning up ocean pollution and for reversing climate change. In addition to his pure advocacy and educational pursuits, David often appears in commercials for environmentally-friendly products, such as this one. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mm0kRa19u6k&t=11s>.

Conclusion

In the event that you seriously consider moving overseas after retirement, you might consider the following. These are just my personal opinions based on my experiences overseas, and are not intended to and do not consist of professional advice to any readers of this piece.

1. The obvious caution is to select a “safe” country to move to. With political instability and strife arising with more regularity now, coupled with anti-American sentiments, one cannot be too careful when engaging in this process.
2. Discuss in detail with a financial advisor your anticipated overseas cash needs and income streams, realizing that the value of the dollar compared to foreign currencies fluctuates over time. Right now, the Euro is strong against the U.S. dollar, but during the past few years, the opposite was true. Also arrange a mechanism that will facilitate the exchange of dollars into foreign currencies and their subsequent transfer to your account in your country of residence. There are companies that specialize in these transfers. If you have such sums on deposit

overseas, then you may be required to report these on your U.S. income tax returns and on a separate form to the federal government. When making these calculations, make certain that you take into account possible currency fluctuations in the future. Violations of these U.S. regulations can result in civil and criminal penalties assessed against the offending taxpayer.

3. Retain a competent and knowledgeable tax accountant overseas upon your arrival in the country. My experience in this area has not been the best; small and medium-sized tax advisors here in Germany sometimes claim that they are familiar with the German-United States tax treaty and how that impacts double taxation of your retirement income, but you might find out later than these firms are not competent in this particular area. My best advice is to retain an international accounting firm with offices in the United States and in the country of your new residence. This option will allow for intra-firm coordination of your tax matters and filings and, although it may at first blush appear to be an expensive proposition, it should save you money in the long run. In addition, before you move, you should determine whether the country you are considering has a wealth tax and what its provisions require of expatriates living there. For example, the last time I checked, France had such a tax. In contrast, Germany has none.
4. Determine which professional organizations that you wish to remain a member of. This can be a trial-and-error exercise; you may believe before moving overseas that remaining a member of a certain group is worthwhile, only to discover later that you are receiving little or no benefit from your continued

membership while in a new country. I have retained membership in some “international” legal organizations after retirement, e.g. the American College of Bankruptcy, the American Law Institute, and the International Insolvency Institute, and these have served me well since my relocation. As a counterpoint, I decided this year (2020) not to renew my Michigan law license and have elected Emeritus status with the Michigan State Bar.

The decision concerning whether and when to retire is an intensely personal one that is significantly affected by family and financial factors. Because of its complexity, I can offer no advice concerning whether and when to retire from the active practice of law. That is up to you alone.

My message is plain, simple and straight-forward. Retirement is not the end of the world, but is just a brief time for resting on your way to new adventures. I hope that you will prepare yourselves well for this new phase in your lives, especially by doing things that you enjoy, that please you, and that enrich your lives. All of us on the cusp of retirement and beyond still have much to contribute to this world. I wish you all the best on your journeys and mainly urge you to have fun while traveling.

DISCLAIMER: Because I am not a tax accountant and will soon no longer be a practicing lawyer anywhere, I am not advising any reader of this article to take any particular choices of action relating to the topics discussed herein. Your analysis and your choice remain solely your own.



Panorama of Heidelberg, Germany, showing the "Old Bridge" and the Castle

The Historical Society Comes of Age with the Help of Justice John Paul Stevens, Chicago Cubs Right-Hander Charlie Root, and the Sultan of Swat

“Aw, everybody knows that game; the day I hit the homer off ol’ Charlie Root there in Wrigley Field, the day, October 1, the third game of that 1932 World Series. But right now I want to settle all arguments. I didn’t exactly point to any spot, like the flagpole. Anyway I didn’t mean to, I just sorta waved at the whole fence, but that was foolish enough. All I wanted to do was give that thing a ride. . .outta the park. . .anywhere.”

*Babe Ruth, as quoted by John P. Carmichael in
“My Greatest Day in Baseball”*

On September 29, 2011, the Historical Society formally presented to former United States Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens a handsomely-framed, glass case of baseball memorabilia relating to the third game of the 1932 World Series between the New York Yankees and the Chicago Cubs at Chicago’s Wrigley Field.

In that historic game, George Herman (“Babe”) Ruth stroked a towering drive into the centerfield bleachers in the fifth inning, off Cubs’ twirler, Charlie Root, for a home run. The extraordinary and almost magical feature of this four-bagger was that the “Sultan of Swat” appears to have “called his shot” by pointing with his bat to the centerfield bleachers just before sending the horsehide to that location. During this game, Justice Stevens was present in Wrigley Field as a twelve-year-old and witnessed Babe Ruth’s majestic home run.

On the day of Justice Stevens’ visit to Grand Rapids, he had been in retirement from the United States Supreme Court for slightly more than one year. He had been on the Court since

December 19, 1975, when he had been appointed as an Associate Justice by President and Grand Rapids-native, Gerald R. Ford. He came to Grand Rapids as a guest of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation, to be the keynote speaker at the Foundation’s 2011 William E. Simon Lecture in Public Affairs. Before making his speech, however, the Justice met a selected group of attendees in the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel to accept the gift described above from the Historical Society. Appearing at the podium with Justice Stevens were (i) James A. Mitchell, the then-President of the Society, (ii) the Society’s current President, David J. Gass, and (iii) former Society Trustee and Stereoscope Editor, Patrick E. Mears. These three representatives explained to Justice Stevens and attendees the significance of the objects framed within the Society’s gift. And Justice Stevens treated the

listeners to his vivid recollections of the third game of the 1932 Series and the Babe’s mind-boggling performance at home plate. Justice Stevens remarked that Ruth had “pointed his bat” to centerfield just before he touched up Charlie Root for his homer.



Left-Right: James A. Mitchell, Justice Stevens, Patrick E. Mears, and David J. Gass



How the Historical Society became involved in the process of making such a gift to Justice Stevens is a story worth telling. At a meeting of the Society's Trustees in July, 2011, approximately two months before the William E. Simon Lecture would take place, President James Mitchell notified the Trustees that the recently-retired Justice Stevens would be the keynote speaker at the Simon Lecture and that the Ford Foundation had invited the Society, along with many other organizations, to submit proposed gifts to Justice Stevens, which if accepted would be formally presented to the Justice at the September event. The Foundation also said the Justice might accept one or more gifts, or could decline them all.

After deciding to accept the Foundation's offer, the Trustees discussed what would be an appropriate gift. Some consideration was given to a law-related object, such as an historical legal treatise, but no consensus on such a gift emerged from the discussion. Trustee Patrick Mears, who was (and remains) a die-hard Yankee and Cubs fan, recalled that Stevens had attended the "called-shot" World Series game, and suggested a collage of related items be enclosed in a glass frame and presented to the Foundation for Justice Stevens' consideration.

Mears then agreed to assemble the objects, some of which were generously provided from his own collection, and secure their framing. The Society submitted the finished product to the Foundation and, after a month had passed, was happily surprised that its submission was the only one out of many submissions that the Justice had accepted.

The presentation of the gift to Justice Stevens was duly accomplished and reflected well upon the Historical Society. One need only consider the moral lessons in gift-giving found in O'Henry's *"The Gift of the Magi,"* and Oscar Wilde's *"The Canterville Ghost."* In giving the gift, both the Historical Society and the West Michigan Community received favorable recognition, making the gift to Justice Stevens a happy exchange for all.

—the Editors



Robert Thom's painting depicting Babe Ruth's "Called Shot" in the 1932 World Series is part of the National Baseball Hall of Fame's collection of artwork.



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