



# SBAA QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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## A Message from SBAA President

Greetings to our SBAA membership! As our ranks continue to increase, the Serbian Bar Association is making every effort to better serve our Serbian attorneys, the communities we live in, and the world community. One of our primary projects this fall is the redesign of our website which we trust will be an invaluable resource putting you in touch with our attorneys across America and Canada, offering employment and business networking, and keeping you current with our activities and events. Other goals this year are the funding of our foundation to help grow the scholarship amounts for our law students, and continuing legal education. In order for our plans to succeed, we need you! Please take an interest in the SBAA this year by attending our meetings, coming out to the Scholarship Gala and other events, and by donating funds to make all of these projects become a reality.

We are happy to have an Executive Director this year, Ms. Kelly Pavich, who is energetically moving these projects forward. You will soon receive invitations for our next fall event, the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholarship Gala, set for Saturday evening, November 19, 2005 at the University Club of Chicago. At this year's Gala, we are honoring Professor Leon Lysaght of Detroit, Michigan, with the Czar Dushan Award, and Alex Machaskee, President and Publisher of "The Plain Dealer" of Cleveland with the Merit Award, two exemplary professionals. Do not miss this event!

Looking to 2006, we are planning a CLE seminar at a ski resort in Wisconsin in February and much more. On behalf of my board, we look forward to your involvement with the organization which will enrich your legal life. See you soon and best wishes!

***Marya Savich***

## 2005 SBAA Scholarship Gala Awardees: Prof. Leon Lysaght & Alex Machaskee

The 2005 SBAA Scholarship Gala has two very special awardees, both of whom deserve our admiration, respect and attendance at this year's Gala on Saturday, November 19.

The Czar Dusan Award is given to Serbian American lawyers who have excelled in their legal work and who have, through their legal careers, demonstrated leadership in the community. Leon Lysaght has achieved something that no other Serbian American lawyer has achieved, becoming a tenured full professor of law at one of the better law schools in the US, University of Detroit Mercy School of Law. A graduate of the University of Chicago School of Law (1965), Professor Lysaght was born in Butte, Montana and was raised in Holy Trinity Serbian Orthodox Church there, the grandson of Serbian immigrants from Hercegovina. He is a member of the Serbian Bar Association and of St. Lazarus Serbian Orthodox Cathedral (Ravanica) in Detroit, Michigan. He has been involved with both St. Sava Serbian Orthodox School of Theology in Libertyville and with St. Vladimir Orthodox Seminary in Crestwood, New York, where he is a member of the Board of Trustees. He has worked on legal and philanthropic projects in the former Yugoslavia. We look forward to hearing his eloquent remarks at the 2005 Gala!

The Merit Award is given to those individuals, both Serbs and non-Serbs, who through their work and life demonstrate support for the Serbian American community and its institutions. Alex Machaskee is the President and Publisher of "The Cleveland Plain Dealer," which during his long tenure has been the most fair and unbiased reporter of news related to the former Yugoslavia. Most importantly, he is one of the most respected journalists in the United States, whose reputation as a great American and proud Serb is known both in the highest circles of the Bush administration and in every Serbian parish in Cleveland area. Born in Youngstown, Ohio and raised in Holy Trinity Serbian Orthodox Church there, Mr. Machaskee (pre-Ellis Island Macesic) roots are in Kordun in the Serbian Krajina region. He is a member of St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Cathedral in Parma, Ohio, the Serb National Federation, the Serbian Unity Congress and host of Cleveland, Ohio and US civic and fraternal organizations. The SBAA is honored to have a man of Mr. Machaskee's stature accept the SBAA Merit Award.

***SBAA Member***

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