

## Message from the Editor

It is once again my pleasure to bring you articles on substantive law and on issues which may be of particular interest to our Section members.

As noted in the Message of our Section's Chair, C. Bruce Lawrence, Stephen P. Gallagher, a consultant working with our Section to implement the "Gatherings" concept, has again joined with Leonard E. Sienko, Jr., to author a very personal and thought-provoking article intended to start a dialogue about the dynamics of the aging process, with particular emphasis on those who are alone or, using their term, are "Elder Orphans." Personal reflections, such as those of Messrs. Gallagher and Sienko, can be helpful on several different levels to others dealing with the personal and professional challenges incident to life transitions. If you have experience with this, please consider sharing in an article for "The Senior Lawyer" so that the dialogue continues.



At the 2019 Annual Meeting our Section awarded our annual Jonathan Lippman Pro Bono award to Ronald Mayer and to Shirani Ponnambalam. Mr. Mayer was nominated by Caprice Jenerson of The New York Legal Assistance Group (NYLAG). Their article "Playing the Back Nine: Collaborating with Senior Lawyers in Closing the Justice Gap," describes the important work being done by NYLAG, volunteer opportunities and staff support, and Mr. Mayer's successful transition from being a banking lawyer to a volunteer at NYLAG concentrating in health care law. Ms. Pannambalam was nominated by Pace Women's Justice Center for her work on behalf of survivors of domestic violence, sexual abuse and elder abuse. More on Pace Women's Justice Center and Ms. Ponnambalam to come.

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The 2016 Spring/Summer issue of "The Senior Lawyer" contained "Ethical and Professional Considerations for the Retiring Attorney" by Matthew Lee-Renert. Mr. Lee-Renert recently had occasion to update that material in connection with his presentation at our Section's 2018 Fall Program and that material is reproduced in this issue. For those of our Section members who are or may be contemplating retirement, this article should be required reading.

In this issue you will also find:

- "The Little Known and Understood Living Benefits of Life Insurance" by Henry Montag and Bill Boersma;
- "Highlights of New York's Medicaid Law" by Sara Meyers, Esq.;
- "A Brief Primer on Discharging Tax Debt Through Bankruptcy" by Leo Gabovich;
- "Attorneys: Will Yours Be a Future by Chance or a Future by Design?" by Lawrence J. Ganim;
- "The Student Loan Crisis: How It's Affecting New Lawyers and the Firms Hiring Them" by Leslie Tayne; and
- "Married Couples Should/A Surviving Spouse Should," a checklist prepared by Kathleen M. Rehl, something that all, regardless of age, should take advantage of.

Please send me any requests/suggestions you may have for articles to be included in future issues and consider writing for this journal. The more articles we have from our Section members, the more relevant the journal will be to all of us. The deadline for our Fall/Winter issue is November 1, 2019.

Carole A. Burns

NEW YORK STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

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