

FEDERAL CIRCUIT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

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PAGE 1

The Federal Circuit Historical Society is a not-for-profit organization founded in 1999. It is dedicated to the preservation and dissemination of the history of the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit and its predecessor courts.



The Honorable H. Robert Mayer served as the Chief Judge of the Federal Circuit from 1997 - 2004

Written History Project

The Society has retained Dr. Steven Flanders, author of several judicial histories, and former Circuit Executive for the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, to write a book length history of the Federal Circuit. Dr. Flanders will cover the period from the inception of the Federal Circuit through the tenure of its first Chief Judge, Howard T. Markey 1982-1990. The book will also provide historical context by comparing the experience of the Federal Circuit to that of other national courts, most notably the now-defunct United States Commerce Court.

The current working title reported by Mr. Flanders is "A Dramatic Yet Measured Judicial Innovation: Establishing the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit."

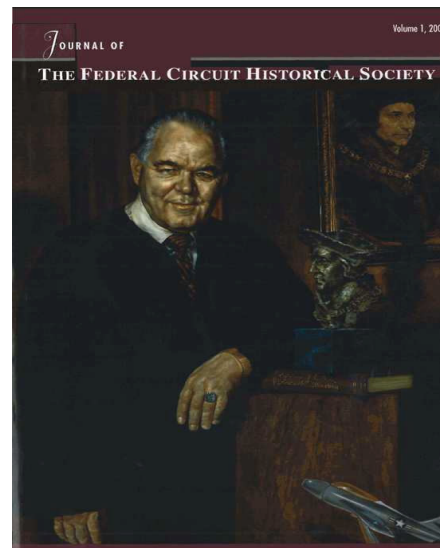
The Society hopes to have the final manuscript by September, 2008, and to publish the book shortly thereafter. David Kane serves as contract coordinator with Dr. Flanders on behalf of the Society.

Photographic Archives Project

The Society continues to add to its catalogue of over 1000 historical photographs of the judges and personnel of the court, persons associated with the court, important historical events at the court, and buildings and physical objects associated with the court. The photos are being posted to the Society's web site, and are organized into collections concerning the court, the two predecessor courts, and historical events. All of the photos have been electronically scanned and captioned, and the Society is gradually posting them to the web site. Sixty (60) are now available on the site. Many of them will be incorporated into the written history being prepared by Steven Flanders.

First issue of the Federal Circuit Historical Society Journal

The Society has published its first annual journal this year. This year's Journal is dedicated to Chief Judge Howard T. Markey.



The Journal will contain substantive articles about the history of the court and its judges. The content will include information from the Society's oral histories collection and some of the photographs we have collected. Herb Mintz, David Cohen, and George Hutchinson are leading the efforts to publish the journal, and are currently working on the content for the next issue, which will be published around October, 2008.

Oral Histories Project

The Society is currently planning oral histories for Judge Pauline Newman, Professor Dan Meador, Judge Oscar Davis, Congressman Robert Kastenmeier, and Mike Remington.

The Society has now collected oral histories for at least nine judges and several other individuals who were important figures in the history of the court. The oral histories include Judges Giles Rich, Wilson Cowen, Byron Skelton, Marion Bennett, Howard Markey, Daniel Friedman, Edward Smith, Glenn Archer, and S. Jay Plager, as well as George Hutchinson, Clarence Kipps, and Donald Dunner. In the case of judges who are deceased or incapacitated, some of the oral histories are interviews of former law clerks and other colleagues of the judges.

Ric Henschel of Foley & Lardner in Washington, DC. and Greg Corbett of Kirkland & Ellis in Washington, DC coordinate the oral history interviews.

The oral histories project, as well as the photographic archives project, have been supported by grants from the Fairleigh Dickinson, Jr. Foundation, which has been very generous in its support of the Society.

Annual Dinner

The Society celebrated its fifth Annual Dinner at the historic Dolley Madison House, part of the Federal Circuit's facilities, on the evening of Friday, April 18, 2008. The program included a recognition of the renovation of Lafayette Square, which began in the 1960's, and honored John Carl Warnecke and Harold Adams, the architects of the renovation, who spoke briefly about their work on Lafayette Square and the courthouse.



Architects John Paul (Jack) Warnecke (left foreground) and Harold Adams (right foreground) made brief remarks about their memories of the renovation of Lafayette Square and the construction of the National Courts building to the guests at the Society's annual dinner on April 11, 2008. Seated in the background is Professor Daniel Meador of the University of Virginia, the "architect" of the legislation that created the Federal Circuit in 1982.

The dinner was supported in part by 12 law firms interested in the work of the Society. The proceeds from the dinner will be used to support the publication of the Society's written history.

Annual Meeting

The Society held its 2007 annual meeting and luncheon on June 29, 2007, in Cambridge, Maryland. The meeting was attended by approximately 100 people. The meeting included a presentation by Herb Mintz and Joseph Re entitled "The Wit and Wisdom of Howard T. Markey."

At the meeting, the Society agreed to change the by-laws of the Society to add three additional seats on the board of trustees.

The next annual meeting and luncheon of the Society will be on June 26, 2008, at the Hyatt Regency in Monterey, California, during the Federal Circuit Bar Association Bench and Bar Conference. The meeting will include presentations by Federal Circuit Chief Judge Paul Michel on the history of Lafayette Square, and by Court of Federal Claims Chief Judge Edward Damich on the history of the Court of Claims.

New Trustees

The Society announced the appointment of the following new trustees to the Board: Charles Hieken, Janice Mueller, Charles Schill, Marty Schneider, Terry Stewart, and Jennifer Tegfeldt.

Membership Drive

The Society has added 60 members since the start of its membership drive earlier this year. The membership drive offered a free one year membership to all members of the Federal Circuit Bar Association.

The next stage of the membership drive will be to extend free membership offers to members of the CITBA, CFCBA, ITC Trial Lawyers Association, Veterans Bar Association, and the BCA Bar Association.

If you know anyone who is interested, please encourage them to join. An application form is available on our website.

The Society now has over 130 members. Charles Schill is heading up the membership initiative.

Society Committees

The Society has the following committees. If you are interested in serving on any of these committees, please contact Philip Swain, Foley Hoag LLP, 155 Seaport Boulevard, Boston, MA 02210, Tel: (617) 832-1150; Fax (617) 832-7000; e-mail pswain@foleyhoag.com.

- (1) Oral Histories
- (2) Written History
- (3) Photographic Archives
- (4) Journal
- (5) History of the Court of Customs and Patent Appeals
- (6) History of the Court of Federal Claims
- (7) History of the Court of Appeals for Veterans' Claims
- (8) History of the Merit Systems Protection Board
- (9) History of the Court of International Trade
- (10) Conferences and Educational Programs
- (11) Publications (newsletter and web site)
- (12) Membership
- (13) Annual Dinner
- (14) Nominations

Dues increase

The Board of the Society announced that dues for the 2008 membership year will be increased to \$50, with reduced fees of \$25 for government, retired, students, and educators. The reason for the increase is the cost of producing and publishing the Society's new Journal.

Website

Please visit our website at:

www.federalcircuithistoricalsociety.org

The Society's website includes basic information about the Society, an application to become a member, and links to Society publications.

Articles and notices wanted

If you have articles or notices for the newsletter, or are interested in helping out as editor of this newsletter, please e-mail the Society.