



# 67th Annual Convention Highlights

## Thursday Night Theme Party



*Many children's activities were also offered at this year's convention, including face painting and balloon artists.*



*Bar members dance the night away to the tunes of Duck Soup.*

*Kirk Karman, incoming President, and his wife, Cindy, take a break from the fun activities to pose for the camera.*

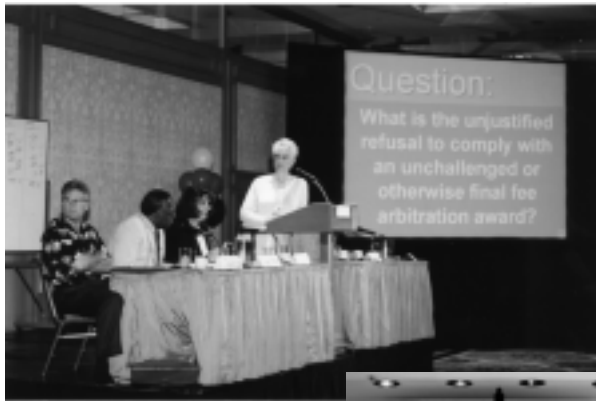


The **State Bar of Arizona** teamed up with **Casa de los Niños** to hold a silent auction at the Convention raising a whopping \$42,000 for abused children in Arizona. More than 242 items went up for bid including an autographed Mark McGwire baseball, lunch with Congressman Jim Kolbe and Lute Olson, beautiful jewelry and weekend hotel packages. The item that brought in the biggest cash prize was a 1967 corvette stingray fastback "phantom." An attorney took the car home for \$20,000!



*Justice Jones and his grandson enjoy the fun and sun.*

**Showcase Program:  
Ethics: Game-Show Style**



Hon. Ruth McGregor plays game-show host to a group of experts answering difficult ethics questions posed on a computerized gameboard.



**Showcase Program:  
Challenge the Status Quo**



Blue-Ribbon panel opens the floor for debate about lawyers' relevance to the public.

**State Bar Luncheon**



Arizona Republic cartoonist Steve Benson draws laughs from the crowd with a true-to-life caricature of past president Dee-Dee Samet.

**Golf Tournament Winners**

- 1st Place** Chris Anderson  
Ron Willis  
Greg Curry
- 2nd Place** Greg Barnes  
Steve Grimes  
Steve Klingler  
Dennis Rosen
- 3rd Place** Larry Berlin  
Kevin Garrison  
Ellen St. John  
Rick Thomas

Women's Longest Drive: Cathy Woods; Women's Closest to the Pin: Chris Young; Men's Longest Drive: Michael Aaron; Men's Closest to the Pin: Jim Rees.

Putting Contest Winners:  
1st Place: Greg Barnes  
2nd Place: Cathy Woods

*The State Bar of Arizona would like to thank the following sponsors for their support of the 2000 Annual Convention.*

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# Award Recipients

## State Bar of Arizona



*Member of the Year Award*  
**Andrew R. Sherwood**



*Continuing Legal Education Award*  
**Roger Schwartz**



*Judicial Award of Excellence—  
Public Lawyer*  
**Hon. Roger G. Strand**



*Committee on Minorities and  
Women in the Law Award*  
**Marian M. Yim**



*Award of Special Merit*  
**Senator Marc Spitzer**



*Award of Appreciation*  
**Maria Hoffman**



*Sharon A. Fullmer  
Legal Aid Attorney  
of the Year Award*  
**Dolores Milkie**



*Distinguished Public  
Lawyer Award*  
**Bradford C. Detrick**



*Outstanding Young Lawyer Award*  
**Barry Olsen**

*Not Pictured:*

*James A. Walsh Outstanding Jurist Award*  
**Hon. William C. Canby, Jr.**

*Award of Special Merit*  
**Chief Justice Thomas A. Zlaket**

*Career Achievement Award—Public Lawyer*  
**David G. Dingeldine**

# Award Recipients

## Arizona Bar Foundation



*William E. Morris Pro Bono Service Award*  
**Steve Cox**



*Memorial to William E. Morris received by his daughter, Leslie Schuessler*



*Attorney Law-Related Education Award*  
**Lisa Coulter**



*Walter E. Craig Distinguished Service Award*  
**Grace McIlvain**

### Bar Foundation Luncheon

*Keynote speakers José de Jesus Rivera and Janet Napolitano discuss their commitment to the public and programs they have implemented. The luncheon was also a dedication to William E. Morris. (See page 44.)*



*John J. Ross Award  
for Teacher Excellence in  
Law-Related Education*  
**Tammy Waller**





## William E. Morris' Life and Work Remembered

by Steve Hirsch



**William E. Morris** was a giant among those who advocate on behalf of the poor and disenfranchised of Arizona. And, as is too often the case, he received most of his recognition and accolades after his untimely death earlier this year.

The 14th Annual Bar Foundation Luncheon at the State Bar Convention was a celebration of Morris' life and achievements. In addition to having individuals talk about Morris' work, the Bar Foundation renamed its pro bono service award after Morris, and awarded the first *William E. Morris Pro Bono Service*

*Award* at the luncheon to Stephen Cox of Tucson.

Morris was most well known as the longtime Litigation Director of Southern Arizona Legal Aid, Inc. When restrictions were imposed by Congress on the types of litigation that federally funded legal services agencies could undertake, Morris became Staff Attorney and Litigation Director with the Arizona Justice Institute, a non-profit poverty law center, where he worked until his death on March 11, 2000.

Morris graduated, top of his class, from the University of Washington School of Law in 1975. After graduation, he was assigned to SALA as a VISTA volunteer, and then received a prestigious Reginald Heber Smith Community Lawyer Fellowship from Howard University, under which he continued to engage in impact litigation at SALA. In 1980, he became SALA Litigation's Director.

The impact of Morris' legal work in Arizona was substantial and remarkable. His work in the areas of education, consumer protection, public benefits, civil rights and other areas of poverty law touched the lives of thousands of low income and otherwise disadvantaged individuals, as well as the education and social service arms of state and local governments.

The Bar Foundation luncheon was the culmination of many accolades and awards for Morris after his passing. The Board of Directors of the Arizona Justice Institute renamed the organization the William E. Morris Institute for Justice. He was given an Honorary Distinguished Alumnus award by the University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law at the College's graduation convocation at Centennial Hall on May 13, 2000. Morris had received the Sharon A. Fullmer Legal Aid Attorney of the Year Award in 1999.

Perhaps the most poignant accolades were those set forth in a letter by Tucson attorney, Thomas Chandler, following Morris' death. It read in part:

"I wish every lawyer in America could know the story of this man. He was a man who refused to worship at the altar of the dollar, but believed he was a member of an honorable profession charged with an obligation to help mankind."

Although the recognition may indeed have come too late, this "real lawyer" will now be remembered by the William E. Morris Pro Bono Service Award and the ongoing work of the William E. Morris Institute For Justice.

## Career Milestones

In *Roosevelt v. Bishop*, 877 P.2d 806 (1994), along with co-counsel Arizona Center for Law in the Public Interest, the Supreme Court adopted his analysis that the State's reliance on a system of school finance based on property taxes and arbitrarily drawn school district boundaries violated the constitutional requirement of a "general and uniform public school system."

In a series of cases involving *Tucson Unified School District*, he successfully challenged an historic pattern of systematic underfunding of predominantly minority middle and high schools, resulting in the expenditure of millions of dollars for infrastructure, continuing operation and maintenance.

In cases involving the *Pima County Jail*, Morris' work resulted in the construction of a new detention facility after the old one had been housing more than twice its capacity. The county was also barred from housing mentally ill inmates in the same areas as dangerous prisoners. Jail conditions were vastly improved with access to medical care and the law library, and time was increased for recreation out of cells.

In *Noriega v Machado*, 878 P.2d 1386 (1994), the Arizona Court of Appeals upheld his challenge to the State's statutory forfeiture scheme allowing an "innocent spouse" to litigate her right to ownership in the face of the State's assertion of "res judicata." This case, along with others, led to a wholesale revision of Arizona's forfeiture laws.

In *Neeley v. Century Finance Company*, 606 F.Supp. 1453 (1985), the District Court adopted his view that Arizona's existing post judgment garnishment procedures violated both the supremacy and due process clauses of the U.S. Constitution. The state legislature subsequently enacted a model post judgment procedure.



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