

Send letters by first-class mail to Managing Editor, *Texas Bar Journal*, P.O. Box 12487, Austin, TX 78711-2487; by overnight mail to Managing Editor, *Texas Bar Journal*, 1414 Colorado, Austin, TX 78701-1627; by fax to (512) 427-4107; or by email to tbj@texasbar.com. Letters addressed to the *Texas Bar Journal* become the property of the magazine, and it owns all rights to their use. Letters may be edited for clarity and length.

Character Roles

I so enjoyed reading this article published in the June 2013 issue of the *Bar Journal* ["The Case of the Esteemed Lawyer"]. The first lawyer I ever knew was Perry Mason. As a kid growing up in the '80s in Carrollton, Texas, I treasured the late nights I shared with my dad watching the old black and white reruns of Raymond Burr portraying Perry Mason. I couldn't wait for summer break or any day off of school because I knew we would watch our favorite attorney, which followed the 10 p.m. news, solving the mystery and upholding justice. I did not grow up around any lawyers, there were none in my family, but since the third grade, all I ever wanted to be was an attorney. The old reruns piqued my interest in the law—forever. I owe this ambition in large part to my Pops and Perry. Other than my family and my mother exposing me to the documentary *Eyes on the Prize*, fictional characters inspired me to follow my dream. Perry Mason, Atticus Finch, and Jack McCoy are the reasons I became a civil rights lawyer and remain one to this day.

Melissa Huling Malonson
Dallas

A Time to Remember

I enjoyed seeing my grandfather, Virgil T. Seaberry of Eastland, fourth from the right in the photo of the March 1953 groundbreaking for the original State Bar Building, reprinted on Page 601 of the July 2013 *Texas Bar Journal* ["State Bar Building"].

Unfortunately he is not identified. I don't know what bar office Mr. Seaberry held in 1953. He was president of the State Bar of Texas from 1957 to 1958. The Seth Thomas clock presented to him at the end of his term by the officers and directors sits on my desk.

James S. Frost
Seguin

Editor's Note:

Mr. Seaberry was a member of the board of directors in 1953. He was left out of the original attribution in the photograph that appeared in the March 1953 edition on Page 118. We regret the omission.

Mr. President

I enjoyed immensely the President's Page by Leroy Jeffers, State Bar of Texas president 1973-1974 ["A Word of Pride" and "A Sick Profession," July 2013]. I never before knew or had heard of the man, and yet I miss him profoundly.

For the 25 years of my practice, the State Bar has stood silently while political, business, insurance, and other interests have sought to belittle the practice of law and the contributions of lawyers to a civil society and their service to the needs of their clients. This often occurred with the direct complicity of some of our own members for reasons that only they can answer.

The bar—our profession—sorely needs staunch and courageous advo-

cacy by the likes of a Leroy Jeffers in the face of the attacks he described, and which have only proliferated in the years since he wrote.

Leroy Jeffers for president of the State Bar!

Sean Kelly McPherson
Houston

Professional Development

Kirk, methinks your fictional barber is your Alter Ego Voice. Okay, maybe your barber did harangue you a bit ["You Should Have Become a Barber," July 2013]. But the reason I did not become a barber is because I suffer from the idealistic notion that I could actually make a lasting and significant difference in the justice system and be a real help to people. Though I never sat on a bench, nor ever hit the multimillion-dollar-case legal jackpot, in my way I contributed to society and to the legal profession for many years. When I gave some CLE seminars through the auspices of the Dallas and later the State Bar of Texas, I felt that maybe only the Barber of Seville singing the solo role in that opera would have had a similar sense of satisfaction. And when I realized that I had inadvertently initiated the Dallas Bar Legal Mentor program and could in a short time help many a young lawyer to service their community's less fortunate, that too made all the difference in my life.

Sonja Staron
Dallas