



ARMADILLO ANNOUNCEMENTS

January 22, 1997

Dear Armadillos:

NEXT REGULAR LUNCHEON

The stars have just been working against me in finding a restaurant and getting this letter out. I have had to change this letter three times due to problems with the other restaurants. Since I need to get it out NOW and I heard on the news that Marshall Fields is having financial difficulties, I decided that our next regular luncheon will be held on Wednesday, January 29, 1997 at the Walnut Room in Marshall Field's. It seems that everyone has new policies. Even the Walnut Room has new management and if we have more than 20 people, we will have to go to a fixed menu at a cost of \$16.00. As you know, otherwise, we all just usually order off the menu and split the bill at the end. Italian Village wanted me to sign a contract! If you know of any other good restaurants, LET ME KNOW. Call me or e-mail me (KCSLAW@aol.com). Since it is so cold, I am trying to keep us in the Loop. Many of you should be able to tunnel to the store if the weather is bad. Hopefully a lot of you will be able to attend since it is so centrally located. Since how we order is so tied to how many will attend, **please RSVP to me at 627-0928 by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 28 if you will attend.** I look forward to seeing you there.

EMPLOYMENT: There are opportunities for all levels of experience right now.

Immediate opening at insurance defense firm for associate with 1-3 years of concentrated coverage experience. Personal and commercial lines preferred. Good research and computer skills required. Salary commensurate. Send resume to Robert Muhr, Stellato & Schwartz, Ltd., 120 N. LaSalle Street., 34th Floor, Chicago, IL 60602.

Zurich Insurance Company's Environmental Claims Unit is looking for a licensed attorney (2-6 years) with some litigation experience. EIL background would be helpful. Call Elayne Cothran at (847) 605-3663. This helpful tip courtesy of Maria Enriquez, so you may be able to get more info from her.

Cohn & Russell is looking for a very experienced litigator (10 years plus.) They have been running an ad in the Law Bulletin, but you Armadillos know you have a direct pipeline to Vicky Russell. According to the ad, they would like an experienced litigator with substantial concentration in representing insurance companies in environmental and/or long-term exposure coverage litigation. It is my understanding that this means actual trial experience, although I could be wrong. Of course, as most people who have practiced in the environmental area for very long know, finding someone who regularly practices in this field AND has a lot of trial experience is a very rare commodity. If you have any interest or know of someone who would be interested, but might not quite fit the "very experienced trial attorney" profile, I would give Vicky a call. If you would like more information regarding the position and qualifications, give her a call.

When I checked Vicky's add for Cohn & Russell, I also noticed that Sedgwick, Detert, Moran & Arnold, is running an ad for an attorney with 1-2 years of insurance coverage experience (Jan. 8, 1997 Law Bulletin).

Last but not least, Kilgallon Carlson & Simkus is considering hiring another coverage attorney. We haven't decided on what level of experience yet. I would say we are looking for 1-5 years of coverage experience, but anyone might qualify if they have the right factors. We are looking for someone to do mostly non-environmental (GL, professional liability and other miscellaneous coverages), but some environmental too. You would probably also have the chance to do a little bit of defense work if you wanted. If you like being treated like a professional, but would enjoy a small office atmosphere (shorts to work, suit in the closet in case you need to go to court, beer in the frig, front-line court experience and substantial client contact and entertainment) send us your resume. It goes without saying that we are looking for a good attorney. A personality is a plus since this is a small office of very congenial attorneys (at least we think so.) The boys would like it if you also had softball skills for the summer league. I would prefer if you played racquetball. We would all be happy if you golfed. Don't get me wrong, while we are a young, energetic firm, and while we have a lot of fun, we take our work very seriously. All inquiries are strictly confidential. FYI, we have 8 attorneys now. Our office is two blocks from the Northwestern Train Station- 218 N. Jefferson. If you want to send over a resume, the address is at the end of this letter.

I was talking to Nancy Caron a couple of days ago, and she advised that they are moving into new offices- adding several new offices. Maybe we will see that office hiring more attorneys soon.

SADIE HAWKINS LUNCHEON

Also, so that you can plan ahead, mark Wednesday, February 26, 1997 for our annual Sadie Hawkins luncheon. For those of you who are new, that is the luncheon where we drag our male coverage counterparts to lunch (only the bravest showed up last year.) I am going to try to schedule lunch for noon at the Italian Village, La Cantina, downstairs. NOTE: There are two rooms that are available one that seats about 22 and one that seats about 36. I have to tell the Italian Village one week in advance which room I will need, so I need to have a RSVP for you and your guests by Wednesday, February 19! I know this is a pain, but with guests we need a larger area. The cost will be \$15.50, plus tax and tip. Drink choice is coffee, tea (hot or cold) or milk. I guess if you drink coke or wine that would be extra. Its central and they can accommodate us. I will send a reminder fax about Monday, February 17. So if you have male coverage attorneys in your office or other firms who would like to attend, let them know the date now. You may bring more than one guest, and, no, the attorney doesn't have to be single. That's not the idea. If he is, however, I know someone who would like to sit next to him. I guess the first 36 who RSVP will attend. Let them know that this is Dutch-treat. I have to sign a contract for this, so if you commit and don't show up I am going to be very fat because I will eat all twenty meals if I have to pay for them.

CHARITABLE OPPORTUNITY:

If you like to dress up and support a good cause, on Friday, February 28, the Juvenile Diabetes Association will present Tony Bennet in concert at the Renaissance Hotel. BLACK TIE DINNER AND CONCERT. \$150.00 per person. If you call me before next Tuesday, you can sit at my table and be my date. (My husband will be skiing in Utah.) If you don't have a favorite charity and want to get your tax write-off out of the way early this year, come eat with me on February 28.

1997 is off to a great start! My 18 year old son wants to get married NOW, and love is blocking all receptors to reason and reality; my 15 year old son has determined that he only scores during hockey games at which I am not in attendance and would like me to take a trip to Asia; my daughter's quick thinking saved a life at a fraternity party; and the Weavers have already met their quota of squad cars at the house for the calendar year 1997. Last Sunday Sara begged us to let her use the new Jeep for the evening. When she returned it, it no longer went in reverse. She parked it at the curb in front of the house. Later my husband went to get something out of the car. He pushed the "panic" button on the remote opener by mistake and the alarm went off. Unfortunately he hadn't read the manual and didn't know the right way to turn the alarm off. He knew, however, that if he drove the car at least 15 mph, the alarm would turn itself off. So that was what he did. Since he couldn't go in reverse, he had to drive around the block. Seeing our car driving off in the dark with the alarm going off, our vigilant neighbor called the Munster PD. Fortunately, my husband made it back into the house before the three squad cars found him. We all had a good chuckle. If you are thinking about moving, you should consider Munster. We have the fastest and best looking police department around. I hope the rest of 1997 is not as eventful as the first two weeks.

I was sorry that I was unable to attend the Cookie Exchange, which I heard was greatly enjoyed by all who attended. After I had already set the date for the cookie exchange, my cousin was named Bishop of Juneau and I flew to Alaska on December 14 to attend his ordination on December 17. It was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and a very moving experience. Thanks for the Christmas cards, pictures of your babies, and to Mary Stafford a very special thanks for the snow dome with the picture of myself and Bozo inside. (It's a long story-but then I've known Mary a very long time.)

NEWS: Ellyn Dorf Hoffman thought that having a baby was such a great experience she decided to do it again. So look for her at home again now rather than at Querrey & Harrow. A couple of people had babies (including Joanne McMahon and Eileen Miller), but I left all of the baby info at home and want to get this letter out today. I will include it in the next letter. If you have baby info, changing firm news or other great news to include in the Announcements, please fax, mail or e-mail me the info. If you leave it on voice mail or tell me on the phone and (as usual) I write it on one of those little sticky notes, the chances of it making it to the letter are 50/50. Dan Jordan is getting married in April. Go Dan! He seems very happy. Hopefully he will make it to the Sadie Hawkins lunch. Mark Seplak (Clausen Miller) got married in October.

Teresa Rooney has given in to the sun god and decided to head back to her old firm in St. Petersburg, Florida. She has a great place on the gulf with a huge balcony and plans to take a month to just sit on the balcony and watch the waves roll in. She said I could visit her anytime. Actually, she said we could all visit her anytime. Her new home address is 12 Gulf Blvd, Unit B-2, Indian Rocks Beach, Florida 33785. Her new office address is Blasingame, Forizs & Smiljanich, P.O.Box 1259, 300 First Avenue South, Suite 501, St. Petersburg, Florida 33731, Ph: 813.823.3837 Fx: 813.822.2926. I knew that as soon as I ran off 90 copies of the new and updated service list, this would happen. SO, since I probably will not send out another service list for several months, make this change to your list now. Finally, an Affiliate Armadillo in Florida!

Julia Allen is no longer at Schiff Hardin and is working at an accounting firm while looking for that perfect job. If you know of any give her a call. Alison Duffy is abandoning Montgomery & Williams (as of Jan. 27) for Bates Meckler. In addition, we have a new San Francisco Affiliate: Sara Thorpe of Gordon & Rees. As soon as Sara returns her bio, I'll give you some info on her. I just received a notice that Patty Ryan's firm, Christensen & Ehret has moved to the 27th Floor at 135 South LaSalle St.

Hope Nightingale, Amy Paulus, Mary Beth Deneffe and Priscilla May spoke at the CPCU luncheon Tuesday. They did a great job and were very well received. The group had a record turnout for our speakers. Thanks to all of them for the work they put into the presentations. Since some of you have lost or never received a bio sheet, I am including one in this mailing. I am also including four more Armadillo bios in this letter (Peg Daley, Aberdeen Marsh, Linda Bondi Morrison, and Virginia Vermillion), along with an updated service list.

At our November luncheon, Vicky Russell noticed that our group may have a slight defense orientation and that it might be nice to try to encourage attorneys who represent insureds in coverage litigation to join. (Actually, I think Vicky may have had ulterior motives. I remember she mentioned words like "convert" and "misguided.") We do have attorneys who represent insureds, but we need more and my goal in 1997 is to get MaryAnne Mason (Kevin Forde's office-local counsel for Anderson Kill) to lunch. She is so much fun, except when she's whining about her feet being squeezed into heels. MaryAnne has cost me a lot of money over the years. (She's involved in that Women's Bar Association Fashion Show- which by the way was great fun again.) So if you know a coverage attorney on the other side of one of your cases who you don't hate too much, invite her to come to one of our lunches.

Dawn Gonzalez wanted me to put in a plug for a seminar that is coming up on Wednesday, February 12, 1997 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Mid-Day Club, One First National Plaza, Floor 56. The topic is "The Nuts and Bolts of Running for Judge." They have lined up a great cast of speakers, which includes the following:

Judge Veronica Mathein- Timeline, Framework and Staffing of a Campaign
Judge Jane Stuart- Getting Yourself On and Your Opponent Off the Ballot
John Lowrey, Chair CBA Judicial Evaluation Com.- Evaluation Committees
Judge Diane Gordon-Cannon- Budgeting and Fundraising for a Campaign
Judge Sebastian Patti- Endorsements, Slating, Promotion, Campaign Literature
Judge Gay-Lloyd Lott-Successful Campaign Strategies

The cost of the seminar is \$35.00. Anyone interested in attending should call the Women's Bar Association at (312) 431-8530. The deadline for reservations is Monday, Feb. 10. I don't plan to run for judge, but sure wouldn't mind listening to these people speak on these topics. If you've ever wondered how a certain judge got where he/she is, maybe this seminar will give you some insight.

Childcare tip of the Month: Eileen Miller called and left a very long intricate message on my voice mail about a childcare tip she wanted to share with us. Since she is on maternity leave we may have to wait until she gets back to clarify this, but the message went something like this: "I have the greatest tip for getting stains out of anything: Take one part Liquid Chlorox II and one part Liquid Cascade Dishwashing Detergent and mix the two. NOW STAND BACK. AT THIS POINT THERE'S A CHEMICAL REACTION." The rest involved a toothbrush and boiling water." She was very excited about it, but I think before you try this you should talk to Eileen to make sure I got it right. It comes to mind that a few caveats might be in order at this point: 1. Check with Eileen, 2. Don't inhale any of the fumes that result from the chemical reaction, 3. You might want to do a spot check on an area that won't be noticed if you are getting a stain out of a colored fabric, 4. Properly dispose of any hazardous chemicals/substances/liquids/pollutants or contaminants that may result from this cleaning process (hopefully, you won't need a manifest) and 5. Don't leave these directions in the reach of anyone you suspect may be the product of a recessive gene pool.

Within the next few months, I plan to take the Armadillo Club onto the Internet (and save some postage and time) if my oldest son is still talking to me! He promised to make an Armadillo Homepage for me. Then I will be able to post lunch dates, locations, meetings, seminars, job openings, etc., and those of you who are in tune with the web can check it anytime. If you have an e-mail address, send it to me at KCSLAW@aol.com. Even if you think I have it already, send it to me so I can start an internet service list. Isn't this just too much fun. If you do not know how to send e-mail (Mary) but know you have it, fax me your e-mail address. For those of you at firms with a lot of people, it would help if one person would gather all the individual e-mail addresses on one sheet and fax them to me. Thanks.

One final note. I have over the past months been reading several different investment books. I started with *Personal Finance For Dummies* and moved on to *Personal Finance for the Utterly Confused*. Finally I got a couple of publications put out by the Wall Street Journal that were very good, easy to read and really explained things (stock market, etc.) well. If anyone out there is interested in forming an investment club, call me. I am only envisioning about five to ten people that would meet once a month for breakfast, contribute a certain amount monthly (at least \$100 each, maybe more) to whatever investments we decided upon, based upon our research, etc. This is not an absentee-group. If you are interested and can commit the time and money, let me know. Also, for anyone interested, Quicken has a great financial planning program for the computer. It can really scare you. The first time I ran it, I indicated that I wanted to retire at 45 and continue to live the same lifestyle I am now. The program showed that I would be on food stamps in a very short time. Although I have been fortunate enough to have already done some advanced retirement planning, I am sure that this is an area to which most of us could stand to devote a little more time. We are all pretty smart individuals. Why not use some of that brainpower for our own benefit.

That's all the rambling I will do for this month. Take care. Hope to see you on January 29. Good luck to those of you taking the CPCU exam.

Linda

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