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Mudd Volleyball



Once each year, the often-misguided accusation that lawyers use dirty tactics to get the job done rings true in the best possible way when attorneys and staff of several New Mexico law firms participate in the annual Carrie Tingley Hospital Foundation Mudd Volleyball Tournament. There are no motions, no briefs, and few arguments. Instead, there's just good, well, not-so-clean fun.

Describing the water-flooded sand pits in which participants play, Modrall attorney Jennifer Evans says, "It starts out more like beach volleyball, but by the end you're up to your waist in mud. Whatever you wear in there, you're never going to wear again."

"Some attorneys might not want to get dirty," notes Tammy Archuleta of the Records Department at Rodey, which sponsors a team aptly named "Grodey." But those who do get to enjoy an opportunity to participate in one of the most fun charity events in Albuquerque. "I look forward to it every year," Archuleta said.

The 16th Annual Carrie Tingley Hospital Foundation Mudd Volleyball Tournament was held on June 12. More than 9,000 players, volunteers and participants attended. Among the many players were members of the State Bar of New Mexico. Attorneys from the law firms of Geoffrey R. Romero, Modrall Sperling, Rodey, and Whitener, among others, have participated. There were 102 volleyball mud courts dug out of the dirt on more than 50 acres.

"It's different. Everyone can let loose. You might be tentative at first, but once a co-worker throws you in the mud—game on!" explained event founder James Buckles.

Albuquerque is one of the few places where such an event, at this scale, can happen. It

requires the right size, space, access to water, and, of course, just the right type of dirt.

Albuquerque is so ideal for the event that the Mudd Volleyball Tournament is now one of the single largest one-day tournaments in the United States. More than \$463,000 was raised in 2010—the Carrie Tingley Hospital Foundation's biggest total in their history. Most importantly, more than 30,000 patient services are provided each year at Carrie Tingley Hospital, and the dollars raised through the Mudd Volleyball Tournament go directly to help children with special needs from across New Mexico.

The Carrie Tingley Hospital Foundation assists patients and their families with funding for critical items such as wheelchair ramps, van conversions, durable medical or therapeutic medical equipment not covered by insurance, and emergency rent and utility assistance. Assistance is awarded to families based on need.

The foundation also strives to enrich patients' and their families' lives with long-term assistance, education and programs through funding for research scholarships and quality of life programs. The Beyond Limits Summer Wheelchair Sports Camp is a one-week camp for youth with physical disabilities who manual or power wheelchairs or walking aids. Other programs include scholarships for therapeutic horseback riding with Clouddancers of the Southwest and dance lessons with the Keshet Dance Company that include an opportunity to participate in Keshet performances.

The Mudd Volleyball event is a sell-out every year, so attorneys and firms that would like to participate in the June 11, 2011, tournament should be aware that registration opens on March 1, 2011. Additional information is available at <http://www.abqmuddvolleyball.org>.



Sutin, Thayer & Browne

Sutin, Thayer & Browne is committed to serving New Mexico and the institutions that make our community great. In the last year, the firm donated time equivalent to 180 full days and approximately \$125,000 in personal and corporate contributions. From educating children to clearing trails to feeding needy families to donating countless pro bono hours and resources to disadvantaged individuals and charitable organizations, the firm's activities target the most prevalent of needs within our community and the local issues that affect us all. These examples are only a small sampling of the firm's commitment to improve the quality of our community and the lives of the people who comprise it through service that extends beyond the conventional practice of law.

In the past year, the firm and its members have engaged in wide-ranging community and volunteer activities.

- The firm organized and currently manages a volunteer program aimed at protecting the election process within our state.
- The firm organized collections of food for the Storehouse and Road Runner food banks, toys and children's items for



Toys for Tots, coats and other clothes for the Albuquerque Rescue Mission, and toiletries and other necessities for our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan through Blue Star Mothers.

- The firm participates in and donates resources to the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure and Step Out Walk to Fight Diabetes.

In addition, firm members participate on boards (many as officers) of organizations providing valuable services to our community including the Albuquerque Museum Foundation, the Albuquerque Public Schools Foundation, Big Brothers Big Sisters, David Specter Shalom House, Emerge New Mexico, Equal Access to Justice, Keshet Dance Company, New Mexico Angels, Inc., New Mexico Child Advocacy Network, New Mexico Community Foundation, and the Storehouse food bank.

Whether distributing collection bins to feed the hungry or organizing pancake breakfasts to raise funds for medical research or serving in leadership positions on the boards of charitable organizations, the firm is committed to the efforts of organizations that strive to improve the lives of others.

Whitney Warner



Whitney Warner started working with Peanut Butter & Jelly Family Services (PB&J) when she was a law clinic student at UNM. Founded in 1972 as Peanut Butter & Jelly Therapeutic Preschool, PB&J pioneered the use of interactive parenting and bonding programs as an effective way to prevent child abuse and neglect and as a way to preserve the family unit.

According to Warner, PB&J teaches families how to see themselves without the labels of their mistakes—see themselves as people who can triumph against adversity and who can make a better life for their children. The success of PB&J clients has inspired Warner

and her family to start a fund to help other PB&J clients who have worked hard to make lasting changes in their lives but are hindered in the achievement of their goals by financial restraints.

Warner's family adopts a PB&J client family for Christmas every year and they include their children in the purchase of the gifts and wish list items, which usually include things like coats and blankets. Whitney started hosting an annual fundraiser in 2008 in her home to celebrate the agency and spread the word about PB&J.

In addition to Warner's work for PB&J, she serves on United Way's campaign cabinet. She would like law firms to provide information to their employees about giving to United Way or the community need of their choice.

Allison Pieroni



Allison Pieroni has given back to the community many times over for her work in non-profit organizations. Her interests lie in helping to provide quality education to students and in assisting those who may have no other access to legal information.

Pieroni has been chair of La Familia, Inc., since 2004. La Familia helps children and families rebuild their lives through treatment, foster care, adoptions, a deaf group home and school-based social workers.

As president, Pieroni also helps the Pius X Foundation raise money to defray tuition and school costs. "I wanted to work with my alma mater to continue to provide quality education to current and future students," she said.

Pieroni is also a member of the Adoption and Foster Care Alliance of New Mexico, a group of professionals and agencies committed to promoting superior services for children, birth parents, adoptive families and foster families through outreach, direct services, education, and advocacy. Recently, she chaired a

committee which prepared proposed changes to the Adoption Act to be submitted to the 2011 State Legislature.

Finally, for the last 15 years, Pieroni has taught Children's Liturgy for the Word to five through twelve-year-olds at the Shrine of St. Bernadette. Through her membership and leadership positions in these organizations, Pieroni has given tireless support to the difficult work these organizations perform for the community.

Diane Harrison Ogawa



Diane Harrison Ogawa packages frozen peas at Roadrunner Food Bank with her daughter Katie.

Diane Harrison Ogawa grew up listening to her father talk of fundraising for higher education at the family dinner table in Luverne, Minnesota. And when he wasn't discussing it, he was bringing donors to the house to share in the meal.

For the last 10 years, Ogawa has been executive director of the PNM Resources Foundation, an endowed fund that generates money—about \$650,000 annually—to be invested back into communities. She is also director of community relations for PNM and oversees their corporate responsibility efforts and more than \$2.5 million in community investments.

In addition to her roles at PNM, Ogawa co-founded the Center for Non-Profit Excellence, helped put together the New Mexico Collaboration to End Hunger, was one of the early chairs of the Women in Philanthropy Council of United Way of Central New Mexico, co-chaired the Albuquerque Community Foundation's Future Fund, is the incoming chair of the Albuquerque Community Foundation and the chair-elect for the CNM Foundation. She is also a past president of the Junior League of Albuquerque and a co-chair for the Center for Philanthropic Partnerships. Ogawa is a member of numerous boards in the community.

Sandi Gilley



In 2006, at the age of 62, legal services attorney Sandi Gilley signed up to participate in a fundraising bike ride with Team in Training, an outreach of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. She did not own a bike, hadn't ridden one in 40 years, and was surprised to find the course was over 100 miles through the Arizona desert.

When Gilley arrived at her first practice, she was joined by her teammates—all seasoned cyclists who had been training for months. She had only six weeks to train and get used to her new bike. At that first practice, she pedaled slowly, but she pedaled.

When she wasn't training, Gilley was raising over \$4,500 in sponsorship donations for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. But this was only part of the equation; she still had to complete the ride. It took the novice cyclist ten hours and 22 minutes to cross 109 miles of desert. Sandi had never cycled so far in her life and her body was in agony. Only with her coach's help was she able to lift her leg over the bicycle frame and stand. Her teammates, amazed by her accomplishment, nicknamed her "True Grit."

True to her new name, in 2008, Gilley completed another 100-mile bike ride for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, this time raising \$22,000 in donations. Now 65, she has two 100-mile rides scheduled for 2010 and endeavors to raise \$30,000 for the society.

"I don't know how many more of these rides I have left in me, but I want to do whatever I can," explains Gilley.

To follow Gilley's journey or to help support her cause, visit <http://pages.teamintraining.org/nm/treadcyc10/sgilley>.

Steven J. Hile

Albuquerque attorney Steven J. Hile of Moses, Dunn, Farmer & Tuthill PC leaves the office around mid-day nearly every Friday during the school year.

He's not getting a head start on the weekend or running to make an early tee time. Hile volunteers two to three hours almost every Friday during the school year as a teacher's assistant at Zia Elementary School.

He helps teach fourth and fifth graders in Christine Lawrence's class by doing whatever is required for that day's lesson. That may include reading to the class, teaching math lessons, or giving students individual tutoring when necessary. The only times he doesn't go are when the class is taking standardized tests or out on a field trip.

Hile said he likes teaching because, "It's rewarding to see the kids learn and grow, and it doesn't hurt my knees."

Hile, 59, has been volunteering at Zia for the last four years and estimates that he's put in a "couple hundred" hours teaching during that time. His three daughters each attended Zia so it's a comfortable fit. He said that he is considering teaching as a second career when he retires from practicing law.

Greg Nibert

Community activities are important to Roswell practitioner Greg Nibert. He currently serves on the board of the Roswell-Chaves County Economic Development Corporation, a non-profit corporation devoted to bringing businesses and employment opportunities to Roswell and southeast New Mexico. Nibert is also a long-time member of Kiwanis International, where he has served as president of the Roswell Club and lieutenant governor for the southwest district. Also important to Nibert is his long-time service to the Boy Scouts of America. In addition to his tireless efforts at raising funds for the Scouts, Nibert served as chairman of the Rio Hondo District of the Conquistador Council from 1997-2003 and is currently an assistant scout master at Troop 2.

Michelle Frechette



Promoting world peace and understanding is the primary goal for the time Michelle Frechette spends with the Rotary Club, the oldest and largest service club in the world. Frechette is the chair of Rotary District 5520 Youth Exchange, which includes New Mexico and West Texas. The exchange program sends local high school students to foreign countries where they spend a year learning about other cultures and sharing their own. While the students are abroad, they attend high school and learn the language by total immersion.

Rotary District 5520 currently has about 20 Rotary clubs that are active in hosting or sponsoring students in the program. Approximately 30 students come and go from the district each year.

Frechette's interest began when she hosted a young girl from Chile who is now doctor. She helped up to five students at a time

the first fifteen years and now helps thirty-plus young people find new perspectives through an expanded and personal world view.

Justin Lea



Justin Lea arrived in New Mexico in 2006 after nearly two years having a “miserable time doing antitrust law” for a large, Washington, D.C. law firm. Lea landed in Taos looking for ways to “be effective in giving back to the community.”

The Marquette University Law School graduate has been president of the Taos Youth Soccer League for the past two years. The league currently has about 550 players.

Lea, who has been in solo practice since January, has been working for the past three years with the local school board and the town council to fund and build a new soccer complex. He estimated that he's spent 300 to 400 hours over that time working on a joint powers agreement between the school district and the town council that envisions a multi-sport complex that features a total of three fields. The town backed a \$2.5 million loan and the school contributed about 23 acres of land for the complex, which could be used by national sports teams, division I or national college teams that want to train at altitude.

Lea, a four-year starter in baseball and soccer for Grinnell College in Grinnell, Iowa, said the sports complex will serve a dual purpose. It will allow for the development of soccer, hockey and other sports, but it also will serve as an economic driver for the community. It will give Taos, whose economy is dependent upon art and skiing, different ways to encourage people to visit. Lea hopes the planned complex will attract youth and referee clinics, as well as camps and tournaments for a variety of sports. Long-range plans include the addition of an indoor facility within the next ten years, he said.

Kathryn Terry

Kathryn Terry, an associate with the Walther Family Law firm, is a young lawyer who has been practicing only six years but in that time has contributed a great deal to the community, both professionally and personally.

Terry volunteers on the Children's Court Rules Committee which works to clarify the Children's Court Rules to improve representation for delinquent youth and children in state custody. As a participant in the Court Improvement Project mentorship program, she is paired with a child in Drug Court or PEG (Program for the Empowerment of Girls). She treats the kids to dinner and offers them continued support and mentorship.

In addition, Terry taught community property for two semesters as an adjunct professor at UNM School of Law. In her class, she introduced the students to the concepts of reconciliation and cooperation while also explaining the legal issues surrounding community property in practical, real life terms. Along the way, Terry has also mentored young lawyers in her collaborative practice group.

The Honorable Lynn Pickard and Matthew Ortiz

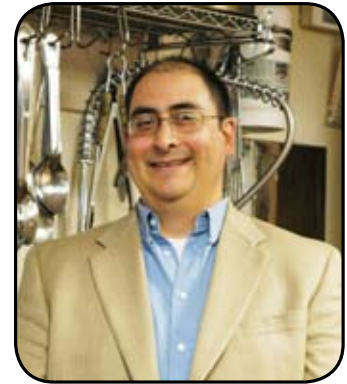


Judge Lynn Pickard at Los Amigos del Parque at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Santa Fe.

Just about every Thursday morning, Judge Lynn Pickard is found setting up tables of coffee, fruit, bread and eggs for the immigrant day laborers outside Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Santa Fe.

“There are so precious few jobs,” said Judge Pickard, retired appellate court judge. “Most of the men wait outside all day without an offer of a handyman job.”

The program, Los Amigos de Parque, is one of her several volunteer activities. For 20 years, Judge Pickard has provided meals for St. Elizabeth’s Shelter and cooks for the Interfaith Community Shelter at Cerrillos and Harrison Roads. She spent a weekend in the woods cooking for the trail repair crew of the New Mexico Volunteers for the Outdoors.



Matthew Ortiz in the kitchen at St. Elizabeth’s Shelter.

Likewise, on the last Wednesday of every month, Matthew Ortiz is usually seen delivering a pot of chili or spaghetti to St. Elizabeth’s Shelter on Alarid Street in Santa Fe.

“We can get trapped by the business of life, but it’s the acts we do for others that make you feel good,” said Ortiz, Santa Fe city councilor and of counsel with Jay Goodman & Associates.

Volunteering is a family activity for Ortiz. His wife Michele and daughter Gabriela help with the preparation, cutting and chopping. They do all the cooking at home, sometimes borrowing a large pot from the shelter’s kitchen.

The Honorable Robert Brack and The Honorable Les Smith

Two federal judges in southern New Mexico have been instrumental in making it possible for World War II veterans to visit their memorial in Washington, D.C. In 2007, United States District Judge Robert Brack saw a segment on “CBS Sunday Morning” about Honor Flight, an organization that provides trips to Washington, D.C. for World War II veterans to visit the World War II Memorial. Judge Brack discussed the Honor Flight with Judge Les Smith, then a United States magistrate judge (now retired) and two other friends. The four men, all of whom were sons of World War II veterans, immediately took on the project of bringing the Honor Flight concept to southern New Mexico.

Due to advanced age and deteriorating health, World War II veterans have less opportunity to actually be able to visit their memorial. Judge Brack and Judge Smith knew that time was of the essence and moved as quickly as possible to get an Honor

Flight in place. They discussed the project with Bill Mattiace, the then-outgoing mayor of Las Cruces, and asked him to head the project. Volunteers interested in veterans’ affairs were gathered to serve on the governing board.

The first Honor Flight from southern New Mexico took place in October 2008 after the group raised over \$100,000 to finance the trip. The group included 40 veterans, 20 “guardians” to assist the veterans, two doctors and two nurses. Nine of the 40 veterans were in wheelchairs, with an additional four veterans on oxygen. All of the veterans were able to participate in the two-day trip at no cost. Guardians and medical personnel volunteered to go at their own expense. Two additional Honor Flights have taken place since that first flight in 2008. The volunteers with Honor Flight of Southern New Mexico know that the time is quickly passing and hope to honor as many World War II veterans as possible with upcoming flights.

Roderick T. Frechette II



Albuquerque attorney Rod Frechette is doing his best to pass along his passion for collecting coins and stamps to a younger generation.

This school year he has been meeting every Thursday afternoon at recess with students at

Corrales Elementary School to discuss stamps and coins, along with social studies, geography and history lessons that go along with collecting these rare items. Fourteen students gave up their recess to attend his presentation in mid-October. "They're like sponges at this age," Frechette said.

Frechette, a member of the State Bar of New Mexico since 1988 and a member of the criminal defense firm Frechette and Associates, also is the leader of the Young Numismatists (YNs), a youth group associated with the Albuquerque Coin Club. The youth group has its own projects and meets just before the adult club. The YNs earn special coin club currency for doing projects and helping with club activities. The currency can be applied to purchases from local coin club dealers to help younger members build their own collections.

In the past, Frechette also served a local Boy Scout troop as merit badge counselor for citizenship in the community and citizenship in the nation. He helped arrange for the scouts to get a "behind the scenes" look at the workings of Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court and U.S. Federal District Court in Albuquerque.

Deborah Peacock



Diane Nelson, a paralegal for Peacock Myers, has been involved with the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Team In Training cycling program since 2007 as a member and mentor. Team In Training is an established network of coaches, mentors, and teammates, built by The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society over the past 22 years, that trains people to cycle, run, or walk in established century rides, triathlons, and marathons. She has raised more than \$15,000 for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Peacock Myers has given her \$5,000 for this community effort, which includes \$3,000 in volunteerism bonuses which Nelson donated back to LLS.

Intellectual property lawyer Deborah Peacock doesn't want her employees' lives to be all law, all the time. Her hope is that they spend some time giving back to the community.

To that end, Peacock, of Peacock Myers, began in 2007 giving cash rewards of up to \$5,000 annually to those who devote a requisite amount of time to board membership or community/non-profit organizations.

According to the firm's Policy Regarding Volunteerism, the money can either be kept by the employee or donated in their name to an entity of their choice.

"Last year, we paid \$25,000 to employees for community service and also donated an additional \$20,000 cash. Pro bono services were additional," said Peacock, who admits borrowing the idea from another company.

"I liked the idea very much, so we ... expanded it," Peacock explained.

Peacock doesn't just ask volunteer time of her employees. She sets an example. She is on the boards of WESST, which does small business development, the New Mexico Association of Commerce and Industry, angel investor group New Mexico Angels, and the Solomon Schechter Day School, which she says is the only Jewish day school in the state.

"I'm not Jewish and I don't have children, but I'm on the board and I'm really trying to help sustain them so they can stay in existence. I think it's so important to have at least one school in all of New Mexico that's Jewish education."

Tom Rutherford



As a politician, lobbyist, and balloonist, Tom Rutherford jokes that he's a "hot air specialist." His dedication to community service began in 1973, when he joined the New Mexico Senate and co-founded the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta.

This year, Rutherford is being honored with a Heritage Award for being a founding father of the Balloon Fiesta and one of its most visible volunteers. He continues to serve as the fiesta's public announcer and master of ceremonies.

The job Rutherford enjoys most these days, however, is volunteering as a "cuddler" in the Newborn Intensive Care Unit at the University of New Mexico Hospital.

"I hold the little babies," he explains, "nurture them, and occasionally recite campaign speeches to the ones having trouble falling asleep."

Torri Jacobus

Albuquerque attorney Torri Jacobus joined the Junior League of Albuquerque in 2005 in an effort to be more involved within her community. Now on the league's board of directors as community vice president, Jacobus has been instrumental in the league's community-related efforts for the past five years.

In her current role, Jacobus oversees and coordinates the volunteer efforts of approximately 400 women. The league is in the midst of a five-year focus on hunger which began with Project Share, one of the first hot meal sites in Albuquerque for the homeless and working poor. Currently, the league's project is "Hunger to Hope," a collaboration with the Store House and the Rio Grande Food Project. With Hunger to Hope, the league hopes to increase food pantry capacity as well as create a communication network among food pantries.

Jacobus is also instrumental in the league's Make a Difference Day project and a Halloween day at the Crossroads for Women, providing a day of fun for children of women who are reintegrating into the community after incarcerations.

Vickie Wilcox



Vickie Wilcox serves as a board member of the Albuquerque Community Foundation, a non-profit group well known for its charitable work and contribution to educating New Mexico's youth through scholarships and direct grants. Through her work with the foundation, Wilcox has assisted groups too numerous to list in delivering much needed equipment, services and, some-

times, basic needs to people in Albuquerque and surrounding communities

Wilcox also takes great pride in her work with Ooh La La Christmas Home Tour in New Mexico, Inc. That group, which Wilcox incorporated as a non-profit in New Mexico, funds and promotes awareness of organizations that support the needs of severely injured men and women who serve in the United States Armed Forces. Through its popular Christmas home tours and events such as its upcoming Benefit Dinner and Dance (featuring as special guests actor Gary Sinise and the Lieutenant Dan Band), Ooh La La provides much needed support to the Wounded Warrior Project, a group that assists wounded veterans upon their return home with, among other things, family support, counseling and assistance with obtaining benefits.

Sarita Nair



For Sarita Nair, it's important to have a passion outside of her legal practice with Sutin Thayer & Brown.

Nair's passion is training and preparing women who want to seek political office. She is president of the board of directors of Emerge New Mexico, which assists women in the Democratic Party who want to do just that.

Since Emerge was founded about four years ago, 90 women have graduated from its seven-month program. They take several classes, which include fundraising, budgeting, campaign strategy and field operations. Tuition is \$250. The graduates have goals to hold such elective offices as mayor, state representative or judge.



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- **St. Pius X Foundation:** President, 2010-11
- **Adoption and Foster Care Alliance of New Mexico:** Chair, Legislative Committee, 2010
- **New Mexico Christian Legal Aid:** Member, 1999-present. Volunteer presenter of Family Law Preventive Law Seminars to clients of Noon Day Ministries, Albuquerque Rescue Mission, and Joy Junction
- **Shrine of St. Bernadette:** Volunteer teacher, Children's Liturgy of the Word, 1995-present. Member, Pastoral Council

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