Look Away, Dixieland

American lawyer, Louis Martinet, who was instrumental in challenging the 1896 landmark case, *Plessy v. Ferguson*, that upheld the constitutionality of state laws that required racial segregation in public areas under the “separate but equal” doctrine.

The story opens with the apparent suicide of Civil War Colonel Augustine Chastaine, who is found on the steps of the Cottoncrest Plantation on top of his young wife, her throat slit. The novel is set across several generations and takes place in modern times, looking back at the story of the Colonel and an apparent suicide two decades after the Civil War. The Colonel’s father had committed suicide at the Plantation at the end of the Civil War. Does a curse exist at the Cottoncrest, or are other factors at work?

One cannot describe the plotlines in greater detail without spoiling it for future readers. Suffice it to say, the story is gripping, the writing is masterful, and is a page-turning thriller that will keep the reader engaged and thinking throughout.

Sheriff Rafter Jackson believes a double homicide has taken place, and itinerant merchant, Jake Gold, is the prime suspect. Rubin then takes the reader on a chase with the Sheriff and his racist deputy. Gold remains a step ahead of the pursuers and eludes capture. Gold eludes his pursuers while focusing on one final promise he has made. Whatever has happened in the 1893 murder or suicide, owners of the Cottoncrest face continued violence into the 1960s.

Throughout the story, Rubin has the reader contemplating how southern justice was carried out to plantation owners and the descendants of slaves. Rubin beautifully and deftly writes this debut novel and it is apparent he has a deep knowledge of Louisiana, past and present.

The Cottoncrest Curse is highly recommended for its historically accurate portrayal of the south after the Civil War.

Legal Outsourcing Boot Camp

Friday, October 10, 8:55 am—3:30 pm (In-Person Only), CBA Headquarters, 321 S. Plymouth Court

Presented by: CBA Law Practice Management and Technology

Illinois MCLE Credit: 4.75

Have you ever needed some help in your law practice but the time commitment and expense of hiring new staff made you decide to try to continue to do more with less? Are you looking to grow your firm, but afraid that current demand won’t continue in the future? Well, you’ve got some options from front office to back office, law firms big and small can take advantage of new ways to leverage the skills and expertise they need provided by companies that focus on helping law firms with specific tasks—from contract lawyers to receptionist to accounting to IT support. These resources extend your practice without hiring temps or full-time employees, but are focused on providing law firms with services to maximize their time serving clients and practicing law.

Participants Include: Leila Kanani, Esq., Founder, Intermix Legal Group; Rachel C. Steiner, Associate, Pugh, Jones & Johnson; Katrice Hall, Hall Legal Agency; Zach Zihak, Zihak Law, LLC; Laura Hoover, Attorney at Law; Richard Dubin, Of Counsel, Schain, Banks, Kenny & Schwartz, Ltd.; and Catherine Sanders Reach, Director, CBA Law Practice Management and Technology Division.
A fundraising note: For those of you who shop on Amazon.com, a great way to support a charity of your choice (such as Lawyers Lend-A-Hand to Youth, Chicago Bar Foundation, etc.) is to sign up for smiles.amazon.com. The smiles program is an easy way to give—if you shop by going through the smiles URL, Amazon gives 0.5% of every purchase to the charity of your choice. On special occasions, such as Father's Day, it increases that amount.

CBA RESOURCES FOR NEW LAWYERS

Just getting starting in the practice of law in Chicago? The CBA offers many resources and programs to help new lawyers. Go to www.chicagobar.org, YLS, New Lawyer Resources to see our comprehensive list and links including MCLE requirements, solo start up bootcamp, career services, seminars for new lawyers, practice pointer videos, and more.

and through the 1960s, as well as for its wonderfully told story. Rubin appears to have a bright future in fictional writing, and will be able to add this skill to his nonfiction and presentation talents. Rubin has struck "gold" in his debut novel. We look forward to future books by him.

A TOUGH ECONOMY IS FUEL FOR FRAUD.

Greater financial pressure on employees and companies has increased the likelihood of fraud in the workplace. Recent numbers are staggering: for companies both large and small, 5% to 7% of annual revenues are lost to internal fraud. That makes a strong case for fraud risk management.

Bring in Wipfli's fraud and forensics team to assess risk, uncover schemes and establish controls. We have deep knowledge and professional business credentials. Our digital forensics lab enables us to retrieve evidence in a secure environment equipped with the latest IT tools. We also provide expert litigation support.

Wipfli Risk Advisory and Forensic Services 630.368.7044
Mike Yankunas, Partner, myankunas@wipfli.com

www.wipfli.com

WIPFLI
CPAs and Consultants