American Trial Lawyers Association to host day-long demonstration at UM Thursday (April 26)

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MISSOULA--

Members of the American Trial Lawyers Association will demonstrate the procedures involved in a personal injury suit as part of the spring conference on Trends in Consumer Credit Legislation April 26-28 at the University of Montana. The program is sponsored by CLEM (Continuing Legal Education in Montana), a cooperative venture of the Montana Bar Association and the UM School of Law.

The trial demonstration, scheduled for Thursday (April 26) in the Five Valleys Room of the University Center, is patterned after a personal injury case that arose out of an automobile accident. Various Montana lawyers will present the case entitled Wade vs. Butterfield.

Robert E. Sullivan, dean of the UM law school, said the demonstration is free and open to the public.

"Outlines will be handed out at the beginning of the day to familiarize the audience with the problem and what will be discussed during the day," Sullivan said.

The morning schedule of events includes: lectures on client interview and preparation; voir dire and opening statements; demonstrative evidence; direct and cross examination and closing arguments followed by a question and answer period. After lunch, the actual trial demonstration will include voir dire and opening statements; direct and cross examination of an expert witness, closing arguments and a question period.

Participating lawyers in order of appearance are: Wade Dahood, Anaconda; Richard Bottomly, Great Falls; Richard Langen, Glasgow; Harold McChesney, Missoula; Milton Datsopoulos, Missoula; and James Heckathorn, Kalispell.
The Hon. Jack L. Green, Missoula, will act as judge and Dr. C.G. Cragg, Missoula, will provide the expert testimony.

Sullivan said the trial demonstration is being held in conjunction with the annual Law Day program.

Other activities will include the workshop on Trends in Consumer Credit Legislation April 27 and 28; the Student Bar Association smoker April 27, and the Student Bar Association Luncheon and Barristers’ Ball on April 28.

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