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G-Bar News



President's Remarks

2002 GCBA Survey Results

The surveys are in and we have finally had the chance to compile the data. Many thanks to Nika Bailey with the Clerk of Court's Office for all of her help in tabulating your responses. Following is a brief summary of the survey results:

The Demographics

Ten percent of the members of the Association responded to the survey. Of those who responded, 70% were male, the majority have been members of the Association and practicing for 15 years or less. The largest group of respondents was age 30-39 and in firms of 20 or more lawyers.

Why You are Members of the GCBA

By far the most important reason given for being members of this Association is to make contacts with others in the legal profession. Social and educational programs ranked next in importance with firms encouraging membership as the least important reason for being a member.

Events/Programs/Services

Eighty percent of the respondents indicated that they read *The G-Bar News*; nearly 70% attend bar luncheons; and nearly 60% attend the bar Christmas Party and Judges Reception.

Fifty percent attend the December CLE. Only 28% participated in Law Week and less than 20% use the Attorneys Conference Room at the courthouse. Of these programs/events/services, those responding indicated that most have some degree of importance with *The G-Bar News* consistently noted to be extremely important. Respondents also noted that the Judges' Reception is very important as are bar luncheons. The Christmas Party, December CLE, Law Week and the BBQ were noted to be very to somewhat important.

More than 50 % of the respondents evaluated Law Week to be a good program. An identical number indicated that they were not aware of the Client Relations Committee.

Dues/Event Cost

A vast majority of the respondents indicated that the current membership dues are at the appropriate level. However, most indicated that they would continue to participate as members even if the dues were increased. Only 2% noted that dues are too low and 5% noted that they were too high. Three percent indicated that they would not continue to participate as members if the dues were raised.

Likewise, a vast majority believe the cost of bar luncheons, social events and the December CLE is

appropriate. Most noted that they would continue to participate in these events even if the cost were increased. A few respondents commented that one way to reduce the cost of social events would be to use a cash bar.

CLE'S

Respondents were split nearly 50-50 on whether the bar should offer CLE's in addition to the December CLE. Some of those who indicated that the Association should do so suggested topics such as ethics, real estate, banking, corporate transactions, tax free exchanges, UCC changes, contracts, trial advocacy, family law and other specialty areas. In addition, several suggestions were made regarding the format of the CLE's including shortening their length to 1-3 hours, holding them quarterly, and presenting the various topics in a more informal or roundtable format.

Other Law-Related Programs

We asked whether members would be willing to volunteer in law-related programs designed to educate members of the community and low income students who would not normally be exposed to the profession and law-related fields. Some of the programs proposed were Town Meetings, adopting a local

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February 2003

Upcoming Events:

- Reception in honor of Judge William Wilkins, Chief Judge of the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals, on Thursday, March 13, 2003, from 5:30—7:30 p.m. at The Shrine Club. This reception is sponsored by friends of Judge Wilkins.
- Bar Luncheon with Judge John Kittredge. Wednesday, March 26, 12:30 p.m. at Westin Poinsett. Flyer will follow.
- Law Week Luncheon honoring attorneys with 50 or more years in practice and presenting the Liberty Bell Award. Thursday, May 1, 2003, at noon at the Hyatt. Flyer to follow.

Inside this issue:

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Bench Bar Liaison Committee

The Bench and Bar Liaison Committee met on February 14, 2003 at 1:00 p.m. at the Ham House. The Honorable John Few, the Administrative Judge for the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit was in attendance. Judge Few informed the Bar that he had moved status conferences up to approximately 9 and 10 months within the filing date to give the attorneys better notice with regard to trial dates, with the understanding that some cases would not be mediated by the time the status conference was done. He indicated that the second round of status conferences under the new system where the attorneys have the opportunity to choose a trial date and notify the Court had worked well with fewer actual status conferences being necessary. Over two-thirds of all cases were set for trial last week without the need for lawyers to attend the status conferences.

Judge Few requested that the Bar, in communicating with his office, choose one form of communication. Often times a fax received one day and a copy of that letter by mail received days later can be confused as two separate pieces of correspondence. Therefore, the Court would

request with regard to any matter addressed to the Court that either a fax, or a letter or an e-mail be sent but not duplications. Judge Few's e-mail address is jfewj@scjd.state.sc.us. Judge Few prefers communications by e-mail, as long as opposing counsel is copied by e-mail with that communication.

Judge Few reminded the group that during jury qualification, when jurors request interviews with the Court regarding matters relative to their jury service, the Bar is welcome to come forward and listen to that information, as long as it can be done in an unobtrusive way.

Paul Wickensimer, our Clerk of Court, also in attendance, indicated that he believes the new case management system would be online in either April or May. It is currently in the fine-tuning stages and is actually operational in some Magistrate's Courts.

The non-jury coordinator is now using an internet docket like the jury coordinator. The Court is working toward making the non-jury trial docket more current. With regard to motions, the Court would remind the Bar that there is flexibility to move a motion within a given term if a conflict arises as opposed to canceling

the motion. Those requests can be either communicated to Sonya or the presiding judge's office.

With regard to Pickens County, Judge Few commented the docket is more current, the goal being to have the Pickens docket running at 12 months by June.

The next meeting of the Bench & Bar Liaison Committee will be held on March 14, 2003 at 1:00 p.m. at the Ham House. All members of the Bar are welcome and invited to attend. If you do not wish to attend but wish to have some matter brought up at the meeting, please contact any of the members listed here:

ATTORNEY/TELEFAX

Gene Covington	233-9777
Jack Griffeth	271-7972
Amy Snyder	235-4399
William Brown	232-2925
Rodney Pillsbury	233-3750
Matt Johnson	271-7502
Gary Hill	235-0199
Sam Outten	240-2498
David Flowers	370-0788
Mott McDonald	240-3300

Family Court Liaison

Present: Judge Stephen S. Bartlett, Judge R. Kinard Johnson, Jr., Judge Aphrodite Konduros, Shirley Bruce, Bobbie Hill, Terry Reid, Christy Johnston, Jennifer Roberts, Robert Rosenfeld, Tom Traxler, Dianne Riley, David Rutledge, John Chambers, Katherine Tiffany, Catherine Christophillis, Faye Hart, Lisa Mobley, and Christine Howard.

Please do not call the docket clerks to confirm the receipt of a fax. Your confirmation page should suffice. If you would like further confirmation, please use alternative methods such as filing your hearing request with the Clerk of Court.

Please do not call the Judge's office for the name of court reporters. The names of the court reporters should now be listed on the docket schedule posted on the wall in the lobby and are also available at www.judicial.state.sc.us.

Please be aware that Judge Bartlett will maintain a master list of lay and attorney certified Guardian ad Litem (GAL) that will be shared with all the Judges. If you are

interested in serving as a GAL, please submit your name and affidavit of qualifications to Judge Bartlett along with your fee structure.

Please remember that all motions and proposed orders must now be accompanied by the Motion Cover Sheet when filed with the Clerk of Court. All Orders and Motions must be submitted to the Clerk's office for processing. Please do not submit them directly to the Judge. The form will remain as an attachment to the motion or order as proof of payment of the fee or in the alternative as instruction for payment of the fee. The Motion Cover Sheet does not take the place of a hearing request which still must be submitted in the appropriate form. Please do not alter the form and submit the exact form that was mass faxed earlier.

Please remember that these new changes are not the Clerk of Court's fault. Do not take out your frustration on the Clerks. Please remember to notify the Guardian ad Litem of his or her appointment in a timely manner.

The next Family Court Liaison meeting will be March 21, 2003 at 2:00 p.m. in the Conference Room in the Judge's Hallway. Anyone who is unable to attend these meetings but has issues they would like addressed may contact the following lawyers: **Christine M. Howard** (282-8575); **Wallace A. Mullnax** (233-4351); **W. Marsh Robertson** (242-1090); **Robert M. Rosenfeld** (235-9613); or **Thomas W. Traxler** (242-3566).

President's Remarks (con't)

school, mentoring students and participating in high school civics classes. Fifty-eight percent of the respondents indicated that they would be willing to volunteer in some capacity, particularly in programs geared toward school children and Town Meetings.

An overwhelming majority of the respondents indicated that the Association should offer workshops or mini CLE's focusing on evidence, trial advocacy, etc.

Pro Bono Contributions

Seventy-four percent of the respondents indicated that they had devoted time, in some cases substantial time, over the last 12 months to *pro bono* work. The value of this time is still being calculated. We have received some great nominations for members to be featured in *The G-Bar News* "Spotlight" for their *pro bono* contributions. You will have the opportunity to read about these attorneys in future editions of this newsletter.

Conclusions

While we are still digesting this information, a couple of things are apparent from the results. First, the Association appears to be providing services and events that are

meaningful to its members and which serve to fulfill members' varied goals in joining the Association. Nevertheless, as the survey results indicate, there is certainly room for improvement with respect to these activities, benefits and services. Second, at first blush there does not appear to be an overwhelming need of the members that is not being met. For example, you were asked to identify other activities/benefits/services you believe the Association should offer. Only 9% of the respondents provided an answer to this question. Among that group, there was no consensus on any particular service, activity or benefit that should be offered. However, an overwhelming majority indicated that the Association should provide some kind of mini CLE's or workshops geared toward less-experienced members who do not have the benefit of the resources and mentorship provided by larger firms. Thus, this is a service that many perceive to be needed by a group of our members. We are working on this concept and hope to be able to present these CLE/workshop opportunities to you later in the year.

Thanks to all of you who took the time to share your opinions with us.

By: Jennifer Johnsen

Terms of Court

CIRCUIT COURT

March 3, 2003: Greenville GS—Pyle, Miller; Greenville/Pickens GS—Simmons; CPNJ—Floyd

March 10, 2003: Pickens CP—Floyd; Greenville GS—Kittredge, Pyle; Greenville CP—Few; CPNJ—Miller

March 17, 2003: Pickens GS—Floyd; Greenville CP—Few; Greenville GS—Miller

March 24, 2003: CPNJ/PCR—Miller; Greenville CP—Pyle, Kittredge

March 31, 2003: Greenville/Pickens GS—Simmons

FAMILY COURT

March 3, 2003: K. Johnson, Jenkins, Bartlett, T. Brown, Konduros; Pickens—A. Johnson

March 10, 2003: K. Johnson, Bartlett, T. Brown, Konduros, Jenkins; Pickens—A. Johnson

March 17, 2003: T. Brown, Cain, Konduros; Pickens—A. Johnson

March 24, 2003: K. Johnson, Jenkins, Bartlett, Konduros; Pickens—A. Johnson

March 31, 2003: Jenkins, Bartlett, Brown, Konduros; Pickens—A. Johnson

Announcements

Please submit nominations for the Liberty Bell Award to Gary Hill at P. O. Box 2585, Greenville, SC 29602. The Liberty Bell Award is given to a non-lawyer who has contributed to the community in one of the following broad areas: stimulated a sense of civic responsibility; contributed to the effective functioning of government in our community; encouraged greater respect and understanding of law and the courts; promoted a better understanding of our Constitution and the rule of law. Deadline for nominations is April 18, 2003.

The Honorable Debora A. Faulkner of the Greenville County Probate Court announces the following classes:

Close your Estate which meets the third Wednesday of each month at 2:00 p.m. Inventory and Appraisal Form which meets the second Wednesday each month at 2:00 p.m. Application for Probate/Appointment which meets the first Wednesday each month at 2:00 p.m.

To sign up, contact Tracy Sharp-Robertson to reserve your place at 467-7367 at tsharp@greenvillecounty.org.

Nexsen Pruet Jacobs & Pollard, LLC announces the hiring of William A. Prince, former Director of the S. C. Department of Health and Human Services, as a Partner on the firm's Health Care Team. Mr. Prince will focus on Medicaid rules and reimbursement, health regulations, government regulations and strategic planning.

John Hardaway recently chaired a Section of the American Intellectual Property Law Associations' Mid-Winter Meeting, and has been invited by Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office to participate in a one day meeting with representatives of the Japanese Intellectual Property Owners Association.

Cristina "Cris" Malseed has joined the firm as Director of Human Resources. She will be based in the Columbia office.

Advertisements

Office building available for rent at 10 Brookside Circle. Call Jim Sar-ratt or Bill Clarke at 271-4100.

Office space available; 202 West Stone Avenue. For details call 282-8575.

Law office available in the Pettigru Area. Separate office and secre-

tarial areas. Shared reception area and conference room. Shared receptionist possible. Ample, accessible, parking. Available now. Terms negotiable. Please call Tom Patrick at 271-4360 for additional details.

Office space for rent—historic Pettigru Area. Please call Kimberly Dunham or Stacy Greene at (864) 282-8686.

310 Mills Ave. Professional Center (condominium), 2305 Sq. Ft. on street level. Contact Bob Ray at 233-4555.

For rent: Single law office; 512 E. North Street, across from Bi-Lo Center. Contact Jim Calmes or Don Pilzer at 233-0663 for information.

William A. Jordan, Jr., and Herman E. Cox proudly announce the opening of their new law firm in Greenville. Cox and Jordan, P.A. opened on January 1, 2003, with a focus on medical malpractice, severe personal injury, defective machinery and medical devices, securities and bank fraud, class action suits, and automobile and tractor-trailer accidents. The firm is located at 667 N. Academy Street, Greenville, SC 29607.

Gallivan, White & Boyd, P.A. is pleased to announce that it has elected Don S. Clardy as a shareholder in the firm. Clardy practices corporate law with an emphasis in business planning, estate planning and taxation.

Willson, Jones, Carter & Baxley, LLC, is pleased to announce that Tracy Welsh Tiddy has been elected a member of the firm. The firm is also pleased to announce that J. South Lewis, II, has joined the firm as an associate.

The Greenville County School District will hold a training session for the Youth Court program on March 28, 2003, from noon until 2:00 p.m. at the School District Offices. The schools involved in the pilot program are Mauldin Middle School, Mauldin High School, and Tanglewood Middle School. Attorneys are needed as judges and as advisors to the student prosecutors and student defense attorneys. Please contact Nell Stewart at 233-7078 or via email at NEL561STEW@aol.com.

The Greenville County Bar Association sends its thoughts and prayers to our members deployed in the military. A recent Greenville News article highlighted the service of Tally Parham of the Wyche Firm. Please submit any names of other attorneys deployed so we can follow them as well.

Announcements (con't)

LSPG meets on the third Wednesday of each month at the Greenville City Club from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., and membership is open to all legal support staff—you need not be a member to attend a meeting. Our next meeting will be on March 19, 2003. For reservations, contact Paula Davis at 271-7410 or by email at paula@gvl.haynsworth.com.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

March 13-15, 2003—NALS Leadership Conference, Double Tree Hotel at Warren Place, Tulsa, OK
 April 25 & 26, 2003—Annual Meeting at Embassy Suites, Columbia, SC
 October 16-19, 2003—NALS Annual Conference, Anchorage, Alaska

Greenville Association of Legal Assistants (GALA) begins a new year. We are excited about plans already in progress. Officers for 2003 are as follows:

Dorothy Sizemore	President
Peggy Payne	First Vice President
Cindy Bell	Second Vice President

Paula Jones	Third Vice President
Susan Guest	Secretary
Phyllis Mitchell	Treasurer

Meetings are held the second Thursday of each month at the Poinsett Club from 12:30 p.m. until 1:30 p.m. with the next meeting on March 13, 2003. You do not have to be a member to attend. For reservations, please call Phyllis Mitchell at 271-8171.

Upstate S. C. Chapter of the American Red Cross, together with the Greenville Hospital System and Ryan's Family Steak House, presents CPR Saturday on March 22, 2003. For only \$10 and 3 hours of your time, you can complete the Adult CPR course. Classes will begin at 8, 9, 10, and 11 a.m. The last class ends at 2 p.m. Call Barbara at 271-8222 to register. Only 300 slots are available.

The Gaddy Firm, The Fisher Firm, and Barrett-Mackenzie are sponsoring a scrapbooking event to benefit the Upstate S. C. Chapter of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. The event will be held on Saturday, March 15, 2003, from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. at McAlister Square. Register by March 7 by calling 298-2873.

CLE Seminars

March 10–12, 2003

Bridge the Gap

19.25 MCLE credit hours, including up to 2.0 LEPR

USC Law School

Friday, March 14, 2003

Depositions: Technique, Strategy & Control

6.0 MCLE credit hours

USC Law school and 3 video sites

Friday, March 14-15, 2003

The Art of Advocacy III—Video Replay

6.0 MCLE credit hours, including .5 LEPR

USC Law School & 3 video sites

March 21-22, 2003

Vacation CLE—Pinehurst

4.0 MCLE credit hours, including up to 2.0 LEPR

Friday, March 28, 2003

Computer and Intellectual Property Civil and Criminal Law Enforcement

6.25 MCLE credit hours, including up to 1.0 LEPR

USC Law School and 4 video sites

Thursday, April 3, 2003

ALN—Annual Spring Employee Benefits Law Practice Update, MCLE TBA, SC Bar Building, Columbia, SC

Wednesday, April 9, 2003

ALN-Health Plans, HIPAA and COBRA Update

2.66 MCLE credit hours

SC Bar Building, Columbia, SC

Friday, April 10-11, 2003

Guardian Ad Litem Video Replay, MCLE TBA, SC Bar Building, Columbia, SC

Friday, April 11, 2003

SC Women Lawyers, 6.25 MCLE credit hours, including 1.0 LEPR, Francis Marion, Charleston, SC

Friday, April 25, 2003

Cool Tips from the Hottest Domestic Law Practitioners, MCLE TBA, USC Law School & 7 video sites

Wednesday, April 30, 2003

Does a Difference Make A Difference? MCLE TBA, Lumpkin Auditorium, Moore School of Business, USC Columbia

For more information, contact the Bar's Continuing Legal Education Division at sclar-cle@sclar.org or 1-800-768-7787.