



G-Bar News

A Publication of the Greenville County Bar

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PRESIDENT'S ARTICLE By David W. Edwards

The year 2008 has all the potential to be a great year (in a succession of great years) for the Greenville County Bar Association. From an “activity” perspective, our year begins (or began, depending on when you are reading this) with a “Year-End” CLE Seminar on February 8 at the Carolina First Center. It features Chief Justice Jean H. Toal of the South Carolina Supreme Court, Justice Tim Brown of the Greenville County Family Court, Justice-Elect Aphrodite Konduros of the SC Court of Appeals, Probate Judge Deborah Faulkner and other speak-

ers, including Tall Tales from the Practice. As of this writing, more than 200 have registered to attend.

February concludes with our first luncheon of the year on February 28. Our speaker will be Walter Pratt, Dean of the USC School of Law. We look forward to his remarks.

Our annual Judges Reception will be held the evening of March 27 at the Greenville Country Club. Our guests for the evening will be all members of the judiciary in Greenville County.

The remainder of the year (details to follow in subsequent issues) will feature Law Week (details in the March issue of the GBar News), more luncheons, steak and lobster cook-out, fall barbeque, Tommy Thomason Award Luncheon, Christmas Party featuring the Swinging Medallions and our annual Memorial Service.

As you can see, the year is packed with lots of activities—it ought to be interesting, informative and most of all, fun. And speaking of fun, sometimes we need just to laugh at ourselves, not taking “us” too seriously. I leave you with a few quotes from a book called Disorder in the American Courts. (actual exchanges heard in the courtroom)

ATTORNEY: What gear were you in at the moment of impact?

WITNESS: Gucci sweats and Reeboks

ATTORNEY: The youngest son, the twenty year old, how old is he?

WITNESS: Uh, he’s twenty

ATTORNEY: Were you present when your picture was taken?

WITNESS: Would you repeat the question?

ATTORNEY: This myasthenia gravis, does it affect your memory at all?

WITNESS: Yes

207th edition
February 2008

UPCOMING EVENTS

- February 28:
Winter Luncheon
- March 27:
Judicial Reception
- April 11:
Family Court Liaison Meeting
- April 28–
May 2: Law Week

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ATTORNEY: And in what ways does it affect your memory?

WITNESS: I forget

ATTORNEY: You forget? Can you give us an example of something you forgot?

ATTORNEY: How old is your son, the one living with you?

WITNESS: Thirty-eight or thirty-five, I can't remember which.

ATTORNEY: How long has he lived with you?

WITNESS: Forty-five years.

ATTORNEY: What is the first thing your husband said to you that morning?

WITNESS: He said, "Where am I, Cathy?"

ATTORNEY: And why did that upset you?

WITNESS: My name is Susan

ATTORNEY: Now doctor, isn't it true that when a person dies in his sleep, he doesn't know about it until the next morning?

WITNESS: Did you actually pass the bar exam?

ATTORNEY: So the date of conception (of the baby) was August 8th?

WITNESS: Yes.

ATTORNEY: And what were you doing at that time?

WITNESS: Uh...

ATTORNEY: She has three children, right?

WITNESS: Yes.

ATTORNEY: How many were boys?

WITNESS: None.

ATTORNEY: Were there any girls?

ATTORNEY: How was your first marriage terminated?

WITNESS: By death.

ATTORNEY: And by whose death was it terminated?

ATTORNEY: Is your appearance here this morning pursuant to a deposition notice which I sent to your attorney?

WITNESS: No, this is how I dress when I go to work.

ATTORNEY: Doctor, how many of your autopsies have you performed on dead people?

WITNESS: All of my autopsies are performed on dead people.

ATTORNEY: Do you recall the time that you examined the body?

WITNESS: The autopsy started around 8:30 p.m.

ATTORNEY: And Mr. Denton was dead at the time?

WITNESS: No, he was sitting on the table wondering why I was doing an autopsy on him!

ATTORNEY: Are you qualified to give a urine sample?

WITNESS: Huh?

And saving the best for last...

ATTORNEY: Doctor, before you performed the autopsy, did you check for a pulse?

WITNESS: No.

ATTORNEY: Did you check for blood pressure?

WITNESS: No.

ATTORNEY: Did you check for breathing?

WITNESS: No.

ATTORNEY: So, then it is possible that the patient was alive when you began the autopsy?

WITNESS: NO.

ATTORNEY: How can you be so sure, Doctor?

WITNESS: Because his brain was sitting on my desk in a jar.

ATTORNEY: But could he have still been alive, nevertheless?

WITNESS: Yes, it is possible that he could have been alive and practicing law.

Next month, we will preview Law Week 2008-

ABA Legal Opportunity Scholarship Fund

The Scholarship Fund will award \$5,000 or financial assistance annually to each scholarship recipient attending an ABA- accredited law school. The application may be downloaded from the ABA website at www.abanet.org/fje. Completed scholarship applications must be postmarked no later than March 1, 2008.

The ABA asks that we inform prospective law students of the availability of the ABA Legal Opportunity Scholarships.

LIBERTY BELL AWARD NOMINATION

Each year the Greenville Car recognizes a non-attorney for outstanding community service during Law Week.

Criteria: The Nominee has (1) promoted a better understanding of the rule of law, (2) encouraged greater respect for the law and Courts; or (3) contributed to good government in the community.

Submissions: Submit in writing no later than April 1st to Courtney Atkinson, PO Box 2048, Greenville, SC, 29602 or by email to catkinson@hsblawfirm.com

Winter Luncheon

February 28

Noon

Poinsett Club

\$20 per person

Dean Walter J "Jack" Pratt, speaking

Make reservations to Melinda at gbarnews@chartet.net or 297-1599 by February 22 and mail payment to PO Box 10145, Greenville 29603

The Cinderella Project

Donations: Accepted beginning March 1 at two Talbots locations, The Shops at Greenridge and Augusta Street.

"Sale Date": Saturday, March 22, 2008 at Trunk Treasures 2830 Wade Hampton Blvd. Taylors SC 29687

Volunteers needed for Friday and Saturday.

Put on by South Carolina Young Lawyers Division.

Contact: Kimberly Grande, (864) 907-7790, (864) 281-6686

kimberly.grande@fluor.com,

WANTED: JUDGES

SOUTH CAROLINA BAR HIGH SCHOOL MOCK TRIAL COMPETITION

February 23, 2008, Greenville County Courthouse

Presiding and Scoring Judges are needed for the South Carolina Bar High School Mock Trial Competition on Saturday, February 23, 2008. We have thirteen teams competing thus far. **PLEASE VOLUNTEER!**

Please contact Debra J. Gammons, Regional Coordinator, if you are willing to serve as a Judge. Contact Debra at 467-5758 or gammond@greatergreenville.com.

Announcements

Merline & Mecham, P.A. is pleased to announce that **Robert E. August**, a shareholder in the firm, has been selected by his peers to become a Fellow in the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel (ACTEC). Mr. August is the fourth lawyer in the firm to be admitted to the College. ACTEC is a national organization of more than 2,500 trust and estate lawyers who have been recognized for having made outstanding contributions to the practice of trust and estate law.

John P. Abdalla, James F. Brehm, Jennifer L. Coyle, Marcus L. Smith announce the relocations of their individual offices to 522 North Church Street, Greenville, South Carolina 29601. All telephone and facsimile numbers will remain the same. Each individual attorney shall remain a separate professional entity.

Cecil H. Nelson, Jr. is pleased to announce that **J. Nathan Galbreath** joined the **Nelson Law Firm** on January 1, 2008. Mr. Galbreath was formerly with Patton Boggs LLP's business law and business restructuring group in Dallas, Texas. He will continue to practice in the areas of business law, business planning, real estate, bankruptcy and related litigation.

Sallie S. Holder of **Leatherwood Walker Todd & Mann, P.C.**, has been awarded 2007 Young Professional of the Year by the Greenville Chamber of Commerce. This award, sponsored by BB&T, recognizes a person between the ages of 22 and 39 for their outstanding involvement in the community. Sallie serves as the board chairman for the Carolina Ballet Theatre, and is also on the boards of the Children's Museum (formerly Imagination), the S.C. Children's Theatre and her alma mater, Christ Church Episcopal School. Sallie's area of legal practice includes management-side employment and labor law. She regularly keeps interested employers and human resources practitioners abreast of training and legal developments through speaking engagements in the community.

The law firm of **Gallivan, White & Boyd, P.A.** announced the appointment of **Luanne Lambert Runge** as a member of the International Association of Defense Counsel (IADC). The International Association of Defense Counsel (IADC), established in 1920, serves a membership of corporate and insurance defense attorneys. Its activities benefit the approximately 2,500 invitation-only, peer-reviewed members and their clients as well as the civil justice system and the legal profession. The IADC also takes a leadership role in many areas of legal reform and professional development. Luanne Runge is a shareholder with Gallivan, White & Boyd, P.A., where she practices in the areas of healthcare and business litigation.



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Verdicts

Caption: Kenneth and Shelby Rycroft vs. Emily Ann Zoltowski

Case No. 2006-CP-23-6660

Cause of Action: Wreck

Attorney for the Plaintiff: Tom Creech

Attorney for the Defendant: Wilson Sheldon

Verdict for the Defendant

**Verdicts provided by the office of
Paul Wickensimer, Clerk of Court**

**Want to make sure your verdict appears here?
Send info to gbarnews@charter.net or fax to 297-1599**

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Available Office Space

OFFICE SPACE FOR LEASE, 512 East North Street, Greenville, South Carolina 29601. Across from Bi-Lo Center, \$600.00 per month, all utilities paid, copier and fax available, Attractive for sole practitioner and secretary. Call 233-6224 or 233-0663.

For rent– Office space in the historic Davenport Apartments, corner of Church and Washington Streets and across from the Federal Courthouse. This space is ideal for attorneys and is the only office space allowed within the Davenport. Convenient parking is available. Contact Bud Babb at 242-6360 to discuss your space needs, rate, to view the office space, etc.

Office space available for lease. 1306 South Church Street. Ideal for solos or small firms. Up to 5,000 square

feet available and will subdivide. Plenty of parking with two baths and large break room. Only one mile from downtown and less than ½ mile from County Square. Call 271-8171 ext 206 for information.

WALK TO COURTHOUSE. 2 OFFICES FOR RENT. Approx. 200 sq. ft each. Access to reception area, conf. room/library, kitchen, etc. Other amenities including ample parking. 408 N. Church St. Call 242-3271.

Single office available, Access to reception area, kitchen, etc. Other amenities including ample parking. 116 Renaissance Circle, Mauldin, South Carolina. Call 213-1097.

Job Opportunities

The Greenville office of **Turner, Padget, Graham & Laney P.A.**, South Carolina's 5th largest law firm, is seeking an Associate for our Torts and Insurance team. Ideal candidate will have 1-5 years experience in insurance defense and possess a strong litigation background, excellent academic credentials, and superior written and oral communication skills. Experience in a judicial clerkship is a plus. Please send cover letter and resume to: Turner Padget, Attn: Recruiter, PO Box 1473, Columbia, SC 29202. E-mail: Ldankmyer@turnerpadget.com, Fax: 803-400-1538.

The Greenville office of **Turner, Padget, Graham & Laney P.A.**, South Carolina's 5th largest law firm, is seeking an Associate for our Workers' Compensation team. Ideal candidate will have 1-5 years Workers' Compensation defense experience, strong litigation background, and possess excellent academic credentials, and superior written and oral communication skills. Please send cover letter and resume to: Turner Padget, Attn: Recruiter, PO Box 1473, Columbia, SC 29202. Fax: 803-400-1538, or email: Ldankmyer@turnerpadget.com.

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AN OFFER YOU CAN'T REFUSE
Made by Some Friends of Preston Reid

The Premise: Detected early, colon cancer is almost always curable. Detected late, it is not. Earlier this year that point was made personally to many of us when we lost our friend and colleague Preston Reid. In all likelihood Preston would still be with us if he had gotten a colonoscopy. As a tribute to Preston, and in hopes of encouraging members of the Greenville County Bar to get colonoscopies when they should, some friends of Preston are making members of the Greenville Bar an offer that cannot be refused.

The Offer: The first twenty-five Greenville County lawyers who gets his or her first colonoscopy this year will receive a \$75 dinner certificate for dinner at one of Greenville's finest restaurants.

The Details: The dinner certificates have been delivered to the Greenville County Bar office. Email the Bar at GBArNews@charter.net and confirm you have gotten your first colonoscopy and the Executive Secretary will send you your certificate.

FAMILY COURT LIAISON COMMITTEE REPORT
January 18, 2008

Attention Attorneys: Please note that the next meeting will be **April 11, 2008** at 1:00 PM.

Attention Attorneys: Please be advised that the 8 page affidavit rule is still in effect. If you believe you will have more than 8 pages total in affidavits not including attorney's fees affidavits or financial declarations then please request 30 minutes or more from the chief administrative judge.

Attention Attorneys: Please be advised that Greenville Family Court follows the Greenville County School System when inclement weather strikes. For example, if there is a 2 hour delay that means court will start 2 hours after 9:00 am or to be more specific at 11:00 am and all hearings before that time will be canceled and rescheduled.

Attention Attorneys: Please be advised that status conferences are still being held and will generally be set for every other Monday, Wednesday, and Friday beginning at 8:30 and for 10 minutes in length. The status conferences begin January 21, 2008.

Attention Attorneys: Please be advised that there is no longer a 5 minute docket "rocket docket" for uncontested divorces and name changes etc..... Please just request 15 minutes and use a regular hearing request. Please do not put these on the agreement docket unless there is an agreement to approve.

Attention Attorneys: Please be advised that the "PACT" order is still in effect. If custody is at issue the parties must attend a co-parenting class similar to the PACT classes prior to the final hearing. Similar classes are being held at the Phoenix Center and Compass of Carolina.

Attention Attorneys: Please be advised that when the docket clerk sets a contempt hearing the docket clerk does not notify the other party, attorney or the GAL. This is the moving attorney's duty. If it is a Motion, however, the clerk will notify the attorney and GAL listed on the hearing request.

Attention Attorneys: Please be advised that a proper language interpreter should be appointed by the Clerk of Court. Do not bring your own. The interpreter should be a neutral person approved by the court. You should request double the amount of time you would normally request for the same hearing without the interpreter. Remember that the attorney should notify the clerk or the interpreter directly that the hearing is off if the hearing is canceled. Please contact the Clerk for the proper procedures to appoint an interpreter and to cancel the interpreter. Valerie Clay is the person to talk to.

The next Family Court Liaison meeting will be **April 11, 2008 at 1:00 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: **Christine M. Howard (282-8575)**.

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***Deadline for articles or
advertisements is the 1st of
each month for the next
publication.***