Deidra Fields Sanderson joined the State Bar of Georgia as Director of the Young Lawyers Division in March. Deidra grew up in Birmingham, Alabama and studied psychology at Auburn University. After moving to Atlanta in 1998, she became involved in the Junior League of Atlanta and worked with various organizations for charity benefits, etc. In 2000, Deidra moved to New York City to attend graduate school at New York University’s Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service. In 2002, she graduated from NYU with a Master’s of Public Administration in Nonprofit Management, and moved back to Atlanta. She says, “I am so happy to be at the Bar, working with the YLD. I have been very impressed by all the work the YLD has done throughout Georgia, and I look forward to doing my best to assist this group in continuing to make an impact on communities and the profession.”

The Community Service Committee for the Young Lawyers Division participated in the State Bar of Georgia’s Great Day of Service at Chastain Park, where we “transformed weeds and neglect into blooming cityscapes and used elbow grease to make the park sparkle.” Our project was to clean Chastain’s Pool, in preparation for its first summer opening in years. We pulled weeds, cut down trees, bagged leaves and scrubbed the bottom of the pool until it shined. As the largest park in the City of Atlanta, this task was designed to help make just one of the sixty acres of parkscape beautiful. By the end of the day, we had new friends from Atlanta’s International School and the Chastain Community. This experience proved to be arduous and tiring, but fulfilling nonetheless.

The Georgia YLD Great Day of Service is one of the largest single-day community service projects sponsored by lawyers in the nation. A special thanks goes out to all local coordinators for their efforts in making Great Day of Service 2003 a great success.

Great Day of Service 2003 A Great Success!

If you live in one of 20 communities around Georgia, you may have heard about lawyers in your area volunteering their time and efforts to help your local community. On or near May 3, 2003, the YLD sponsored projects in communities in North, South and Middle Georgia. From a pro se family law clinic in Americus, to working with a local AIDS Coalition in Cartersville, lawyers young and old, including members of the bench, gave back to their communities. In Columbus, local lawyers volunteered to help participants in the Special Olympics Regional Trials. In Peachtree City and other metro Atlanta communities, lawyers helped in community clean ups. Whether you live in Albany, Valdosta, Augusta or Dalton, a Great Day of Service project helped your community.

The Georgia YLD Great Day of Service is one of the largest single-day community service projects sponsored by lawyers in the nation. A special thanks goes out to all local coordinators for their efforts in making Great Day of Service 2003 a great success.
President’s Corner
By Derek J. White

Life’s Journey--The Values of Going on the Journey vs. Getting to the End of the Journey

C.P. Cavafy wrote the following poem titled Ithaca concerning Odysseus’ travels:

When you start on your journey to Ithaca, then pray that the road is long,
full of adventure, full of knowledge, do not fear the Lestrygonians
and the Cyclopes and the angry Poseidon.
You will never meet such as these on your path, if your thoughts remain lofty, if a fine emotion touches your body and your spirit.
You will never meet the Lestrygonians, the Cyclopes, and the fierce Poseidon, if you do not carry them within your soul, if your soul does not raise them up before you.
Then pray that the road is long.
That the summer mornings are many, that you will enter ports seen for the first time with such pleasure, with such joy!
Stop at Phoenician markets, and purchase fine merchandise, mother-of-pearl and corals, amber, and ebony, and pleasurable perfumes of all kinds, visits hosts of Egyptian cities, to learn and learn from those who have knowledge.
Always keep Ithaca fixed in your mind.
To arrive there is your ultimate goal.
But do not hurry the voyage at all.
It is better to let it last for long years; and even to anchor at the isle when you are old, rich with all that you have gained on the way, not expecting that Ithaca will offer you riches.
Ithaca has given you the beautiful voyage.
Without her you would have never taken the road.
But she has nothing more to give you.
And if you find her poor, Ithaca has not defrauded you.
With the great wisdom you have gained, with so much experience, you must surely have understood by then what Ithacas mean.

In place of the word “Ithaca,” enter the words “being an attorney” or “representing others” and you should immediately realize how the poem can be applied to describe our legal travels as members of one of the noblest professions known to mankind. You should realize how aptly the poem captures the daily toils of our dedication to our fellow citizens. Likewise, you should realize how the poem befittingly describes the rewards of assisting those who are unable to assist themselves in legal matters.

In place of the word “Ithaca,” enter the words “making a difference in the lives of others” and you should immediately realize how the poem can be utilized as an analogy to describe our professional and regal endeavors. You should realize how the poem accurately reflects the wisdom and experience to be gained from our professional endeavors, individually as well as collectively.

In place of the word “Ithaca,” enter the words “public service” and you should immediately realize how the poem befittingly describes the rewards of assisting those who are unable to assist themselves in legal matters.

You should immediately realize how the poem beckons one to face the demons legal and public service will present.

All in all, our legal journeys to our individual legal ends (our individual legal Ithacas) should treasure the blessings bestowed upon me as your President to the end of my legal journey.

Due to the combined effort of these noble persons, my serving you was made easy. I will treasure the blessings bestowed upon me as your President to the end of my legal journey. Thank you all for your support.

Please join us in thanking the following gavel sponsors for their support of the State Bar of Georgia:

LexisNexis

The Georgia Fund

Thompson West

Cognizant

ABA Members Retirement Program

ISI

Insurance Specialists, Inc.

1-Gavel

3-Gavel

4-Gavel

5-Gavel
Golf With Your Friends....And Help A Great Cause!

Once again, the Law-Related Education Committee presents the 6th Annual Law-Related Education Golf Tournament! This year’s tournament will take place on Monday, September 22, 2003 at The Oaks Course in Covington, Georgia, with a shotgun start at High Noon. Lunch, beverages and "goodie bags" will be provided for all players, as well as prizes for the First, Second and Third Place teams. Special prizes are also offered for the Longest Drive and the Closest to the Pin. Raffle tickets are also available for purchase at the tournament. As always, competition will be FIERCE!

The idea behind Law-Related Education is that our community is made stronger by the education of its citizens as to their rights and obligations under the law. Students are taught the reason for laws and our legal system, how the system protects their rights and what their obligations are under the law.

All proceeds from the golf tournament will go to the Law-Related Education Consortium in Athens, Georgia. The Consortium promotes the teaching of law-related education to students, juvenile and first offenders and others in the community. The Consortium's teaching materials are aimed at learners of all levels and age groups in Georgia and are used in regular classes, community education classes, after-school sessions and weekend teaching sessions. Several YLD Committees use these materials in their community outreach efforts. Currently, the Consortium is updating its textbook, and also translating the text into Spanish. This is a very costly endeavor AND WE NEED YOUR HELP! So PLEASE--come on out and play with us!

Of course, if you cannot take the day off, we will still welcome your sponsorship dollars or in-kind donations. Go ahead--promote your office or service! We love golf balls, golf towels, tees, golf shirts, t-shirts or just about any other logo-bearing, advertisement-sporting item you can imagine! We also love creative raffle prizes (don’t want to see that play in November that you already bought tickets for? Can’t go to that football game with those non-refundable tickets? We’ll take them! All donations are tax-deductible.)

A sign-up form is located in this edition of the YLD Newsletter (PAGE 4)—but if you need more information call Melisa Anderson at (404) 221-2222 or Jay Sadd at (404) 255-6677. See you in September!

REMINDER:

Committee memberships expire on June 30. You must sign up for YLD committees each new Bar year. Renewal for committees is not automatic. Look for new committee brochure in late June.

A Special Thank You To the YLD 2003 Spring Meeting Sponsors For Their Generous Support and Help in Making Our Meeting A Success:

Bull & Associates, Inc.

Charles T. Schell & John. T. Bair

Esquire Deposition Services

Insurance Specialists, Inc.
Monday, September 22, 2005
The Oaks Course 11240 Brown Bridge Rd.
Covington, GA 770/786-3801
www.golfleas.com

EXCITING PRIZES
- 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place Teams
- Longest Drive
- Closest to the Pin

12 Noon Shotgun Start... Rain or Shine

$85 per player / $340 per team

Lunch and beverages will be provided after the tournament.
... Sorry, no refunds.

Pick your teams early – competition is fierce

Organized and sponsored by the Young Lawyers Division
Law-Related Education Committee

Sponsorship Section

Yes! I would like to help sponsor Law-Related Education at the level indicated below.

  General Sponsor: $250 contribution includes partial hole sponsorship

  Silver Sponsor: $500 contribution includes partial hole sponsorship and 2 player’s fees

  Gold Sponsor: $1000 contribution includes exclusive hole sponsorship, 4 player’s fees

  □ As a Sponsor I will be sending the players shown below  OR  □ I am sponsoring as shown above but will not send players

Name of Organization: ___________________________  Contact: ___________________________

Entry Deadline: September 8th, 2003

Player’s Section

I’m entering the tournament—Please assign me to a team  OR  We’re entering the tournament—Please enter us as a team

Player 1
Name: ___________________________  Address: _______________________________________________
Phone: ___________________________  Handicap: ___________________________
Email: ___________________________

Player 2
Name: ___________________________  Address: _______________________________________________
Phone: ___________________________  Handicap: ___________________________
Email: ___________________________

Player 3
Name: ___________________________  Address: _______________________________________________
Phone: ___________________________  Handicap: ___________________________
Email: ___________________________

Player 4
Name: ___________________________  Address: _______________________________________________
Phone: ___________________________  Handicap: ___________________________
Email: ___________________________

Make Tournament Entry check payable to: Young Lawyers Division and mail with entry form to the address shown above.
In the past, members of the bar dealing with an attorney or judge whose actions have been less than professional have had few options. One could (1) file a complaint with the Office of General Counsel or Judicial Qualifications Commission or (2) do nothing. The Judicial District Professionalism Program (JDPP) offers a middle ground between inaction and filing a formal complaint. JDPP allows an attorney to file an inquiry anonymously and have action taken in a discrete, informal manner. The JDPP seeks to privately resolve the cause of inquiry on an informal basis.

Each Judicial district has its own JDPP committee comprised of members of the Board of Governors with the longest serving member of each district acting as chair. In addition to the members of the Board of Governors, each JDPP committee has a judicial advisor, who is a judge in that District. The procedure for filing an inquiry works as follows: a member of the bar who is having a problem with the unprofessional conduct of a judge or attorney files an inquiry. The inquiry can be filed with any member of the Board of Governors, Cliff Brashier, State Bar Executive Director, or the intake staff Lawyer with the State Bar Consumer Assistance Program (CAP). The chair of the local JDPP committee is then contacted and a determination is made as to how to best address the unprofessional conduct. Often, a member of the committee calls the attorney or judge to discuss his or her conduct and suggest how it can be improved. The name of the party who initiated the inquiry is not revealed and the JDPP does not issue any reprimand, public or private.

The unprofessional conduct of lawyers which the JDPP seeks to address includes: lack of appropriate respect or deference, abusive discovery practices, incivility, bias, conduct unbecoming a lawyer or judge, consistent lack of preparation, excessive delay, communication problems, deficient practice skills, and other conduct deemed professionally inappropriate. The JDPP does not handle lawyer/client disputes, fee disputes, employment matters, lawyer/vendor disputes or disciplinary matters.

The JDPP is seeking to raise the bar for ethics and professionalism town-by-town and city-by-city. By using local attorneys and judges to encourage professional conduct, the JDPP hopes to prevent formal complaints and litigation. The JDPP’s use of respected attorneys and judges to encourage professional conduct will allow local attorneys and judges to solve their problems without going outside the “family.” Locality and community are important elements of the JDPP.

The JDPP also provides mentoring and guidance addressing the “best practices” for lawyers and judges and initiates creative programs such as CLE programs, professionalism awards and tributes in memory of local lawyers and judges.

If you wish to make an inquiry or otherwise need JDPP assistance, contact Cliff Brashier, State Bar Executive Director, at (404) 527-8755, or the intake staff Lawyer with the State Bar Consumer Assistance Program (CAP). The chair of the local JDPP committee is then contacted and a determination is made as to how to best address the unprofessional conduct. Often, a member of the committee calls the attorney or judge to discuss his or her conduct and suggest how it can be improved. The name of the party who initiated the inquiry is not revealed and the JDPP does not issue any reprimand, public or private.

About the Author: Michael G. Geoffroy is an associate at Moulton & Massey, LLC with offices in Conyers and Lake Oconee and serves on the YLD Ethics Committee.

The Georgia High School Mock Trial Program successfully completed its 15th annual state-wide competition this year. During the 2002-2003 season, students from 109 schools in Georgia participated in 15 regional competitions. The 15 regional champions came together on March 15 and 16, 2003, at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center in Lawrenceville to compete for the state title. The Jonesboro team won the state title for the second year in a row! The Jonesboro team traveled to New Orleans, Louisiana on May 6, 2003 to represent the state of Georgia in competition against over 42 other mock trial teams from around the nation. Georgia won the national title in 1995 and 1999.

The Georgia Mock Trial Program also hosted several special projects throughout the 2002-2003 competition season. During the fourth weekend in November 2002, forty-eight scholars attended the 2002 Law Academy at the University of Georgia Law School. The Law Academy provides intensive training on mock trial rules and procedures to students who will serve as team leaders on the local level. The Mock Trial Program also hosted the Craig Harding Court Artist Contest and the Journalism Contest and this year’s winners were respectively, Matt McCann from Decatur High School and Beth Green from Alexander High School.

If you are not already involved with one of the programs sponsored by the High School Mock Trial Committee and would like to become involved in this rewarding program, please contact the mock trial office for more information. The recruitment process runs from the end of June through the Fall. Visit the Georgia High School Mock Trial Program online at our website www.gabar.org/mocktrial.htm.

JOIN THE MOCK TRIAL COMMITTEE
visit our website www.gabar.org/mocktrial.asp
or contact the mock trial office for a registration form
404/527-8779 or mocktrial@gabar.org

Make an impact in your community!
COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS COMMITTEE

During the month of March, the Community Service Projects Committee of the Young Lawyers Division held a Toiletries Drive to benefit domestic violence shelters in Albany, Atlanta, Augusta, Columbus, and Macon. Katrina Quicker of Kilpatrick Stockton LLP coordinated the Toiletries Drive for the Community Service Projects Committee and several law firms and legal organizations throughout the state hosted collection sites. As a result, the Community Service Projects Committee was able to collect over 100 boxes of toiletries. In addition to toiletries, a computer, furniture, cell phones, and cash were donated. Donations were made to the Partnership Against Domestic Violence, Women’s Resource Center of DeKalb County, Decatur Cooperative Ministry, Crossroads Community Ministries, Liberty House of Albany, Augusta Safe House, Columbus Alliance for Battered Women, and Macon Salvation Army Safe House. Overall, the Toiletries Drive was a huge success, and the domestic violence shelters were very appreciative. Thank you to everyone who donated!

On April 26, 2003, the Community Service Projects Committee sponsored a beach cleanup at Daufuskie Island, South Carolina, in conjunction with the YLD Spring Meeting. About 15 younger lawyers and their families helped to fill over 10 trash bags with cans, bottles, shoes, and other interesting debris. Martha Hutton, a community leader who suggested the cleanup, called to thank the volunteers for leaving the beach so much cleaner than they had found it. Many thanks to all the volunteers!

MINORITIES IN THE PROFESSION COMMITTEE

There is an African proverb that says, “There is no success without successors.” The YLD’s Minorities in the Profession Committee (MIPC) attempted to ensure their success in the profession by hosting a panel discussion for possible successors at Georgia State University’s College of Law on March 27, 2003. The Student Outreach subcommittee of the MIPC organized and co-sponsored the panel, discussion entitled “So You Want To Be A Lawyer: What We Did and How We Did It: Georgia State College Law Alumni Speak” with the Black Law Student Association.

The panel featured Donna Johnson, a partner at Neighbors, Lett, & Johnson LLC; Harold Buckley, an associate at Alston & Bird LLP; Felicia McKibben, an assistant solicitor general in Fulton County, and Dorsey Hopson, a staff attorney with Atlanta Public Schools. The panel was organized and moderated by Mawuli Davis, an associate at Troutman Sanders LLP. These distinguished GSU Law alumni spoke to a large group of current undergraduate and law students about their experiences as practicing attorneys. The students commented that the discussion was informative and that they were very appreciative of the attorneys taking the time to come and speak with them. The Dean of the Georgia State University College of Law, Janice Griffith, was also in attendance and expressed her appreciation to the MIPC for sponsoring the event. Summer Henry, a recent graduate of the GSU psychology program stated, “This (the panel discussion) inspired me even more to want to go to law school and become a lawyer.” It appears that the program was indeed a success.

ZOO DAY

On May 17th, 2003, the Community Service Projects Committee of the Young Lawyers Division held its Annual Zoo Day. This was the fourth year in which YLD volunteers chaperoned foster children from the Georgia Department of Family and Children Services around the zoo. This project provided many of these foster children with their first visit to the zoo. The volunteers and children thoroughly enjoyed the event. Thanks to generous sponsorship by Atlanta law firms, we were able to pay for the children’s entry tickets, lunch, train ride, carousel ride and souvenirs.

This project would not have been possible without the generous donations provided by:

Butler, Wooten, Fryhofer, Daughtery and Sullivan
Hunton & Williams
Alston & Bird
Kutak Rock
King & Spalding.
Scenes from the Spring YLD Meeting
April 25-27, 2003
Daufuskie Island Club and Resort
Daufuskie Island, South Carolina

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1 New Bar year begins, YLD leadership change takes effect... Sign up for YLD Committees

4 Happy 4th of July! Bar Office closed

7-11 ABA/YLD Annual Meeting
San Francisco, CA

15-17 YLD Summer Meeting; Highlands, NC

1 Labor Day- Bar Office Closed

22 LRE Golf Tournament; Covington, GA

BAR NIGHT
presented by the YLD Community Service Committee and Juvenile Law Committee

June 24, 2003
6:00pm until ?
Cherry Restaurant & Bar
1051 West Peachtree Street, Atlanta
(404) 872-2020

Suggested Donation $5*
Light hors d’oeuvres will be served.
Your first Absolut drink, domestic beer, or house wine will be free.
Stay for dinner at Cherry and receive 15% off your total food bill.

*All proceeds will benefit the Celebration of Excellence, an annual event celebrating the educational achievements of Georgia’s foster children, and the Fulton County Department of Family and Children Services.

For more information, please contact Paul Greenspan at (404) 817-4766, or Paul.Greenspan@ey.com
This is my last YLD Newsletter Editor column. I appreciate the opportunity to have served as Newsletter Editor for this publication and to address you on subjects that I felt were important to the YLD and, especially in the case of the last newsletter column, on subjects that were important to me.

I want to thank all of you who have contributed to this newsletter during the last two years. The articles sent to me by members, committee chairs and directors were informative and written so well that it made my job easy. I also want to thank Jackie Indek, the former YLD Director, and Deidra Sanderson, the new YLD Director, who really do the lion's share of the work to bring the newsletter to you. I would also be remiss if I did not thank those in my office (Joy Agee, Donna Parker and Ashley Haines) who help me meet my obligations and without whose assistance I could not function. As always, I am grateful to the attorneys in my law firm who support my efforts and to my husband upon whose support I depend.

I particularly want to thank those who have served as active members of the YLD. Your energy, enthusiasm, commitment and creativity are a source of inspiration to me and everyone around you. As I move forward to serve in other leadership roles in the YLD, I hope that you will continue to serve in such selfless ways. A special thanks to Pete Daughtery and Derek White who allowed me to have this role and whose tenures as YLD Presidents will be a hard act to follow.

As I move on to other challenges in the YLD, my motto will be, to paraphrase John F. Kennedy, Jr., to ask not what the members can do for the YLD, but what the YLD can do for its members. I hope to make some positive changes so that the YLD will better serve its members, the young lawyers of the State of Georgia. To do this in any meaningful way, however, I need your input and your support. I look forward to working with and for you in the future.

Upcoming YLD Meetings:

**Summer Meeting:** August 15-17, 2003
Highlands Inn
Highlands, NC

**Fall Meeting:** October 3-5, 2003
Foundry Park Inn & Spa
Athens, GA

For more information, contact Deidra F. Sanderson, YLD Director, at (404) 527-8778, or deidra@gabar.org