YLD HOSTS THE 2002 NATIONAL MOOT COURT COMPETITION

On November 8 and 9, 2002, the Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Georgia hosted the 53rd Annual National Moot Court Competition for Region Five. The National Competition is the oldest and most prestigious moot court competition in the country. Participants include representative teams of 3rd year students from every law school in the country, except ivy league schools. The area comprising Region Five includes Georgia, Florida, South Carolina, and Puerto Rico. This year’s competition was held at the Fulton County courthouse.

The Regional Competition consisted of a series of five “round robin” qualifying rounds, two semi-final arguments, and a final argument. Both teams participating in the final round of the regional competition represent Region Five in the final rounds of the national competition in New York City during the week of January 27, 2003. Traveling to New York this year will be the teams from University of Georgia and Mercer University. UGA, represented by team members, Stacey Carroll (Best Oral Advocate winner) and Nathan Cronic, and faculty advisor, Kellie Casey, finished in First Place, while Mercer, represented by team members, David Clifton, Wesley Person and Jamie Woodard, and faculty advisor, Reynold Kosek, finished in Second Place. Mercer also won the award for Best Brief.

The competition presents a wonderful opportunity for YLD involvement in that the preliminary round judges and brief judges are traditionally made up of volunteer attorneys representing firms throughout Atlanta. Involvement in the competition includes joint participation with state and federal judges in the Atlanta area who serve as judges for the semi-final and final rounds, including Justices from the Georgia Supreme Court and Court of Appeals. This year’s YLD Committee members included: Jason Saliba, chairperson, Jonathan Tuggle, Cheryl Barnes, Mary Lee Glassberg, Daphne Walker, Donna Johnson, Tom Mew and Michael Holbein.

Based upon the widespread involvement of attorneys and judges in the Atlanta area, as well as promising 3rd year law students throughout the Southeast, the competition also serves as a valuable source of exposure to the National Moot Court Competition. The preliminary round judges and brief judges are traditionally made up of volunteer attorneys representing firms throughout Atlanta. Involvement in the competition includes joint participation with state and federal judges in the Atlanta area who serve as judges for the semi-final and final rounds, including Justices from the Georgia Supreme Court and Court of Appeals. This year’s YLD Committee members included: Jason Saliba, chairperson, Jonathan Tuggle, Cheryl Barnes, Mary Lee Glassberg, Daphne Walker, Donna Johnson, Tom Mew and Michael Holbein.

ATTORNEY COACHES NEEDED FOR HIGH SCHOOL TEAMS THROUGHOUT GEORGIA

Berkmar High School
Lilburn
Brookwood High School
Snellville
Dacula High School
Dacula
*Fannin County High School
Blue Ridge
*Harrison High School
Kennesaw
Johnson High School
Gainesville
*McIntosh High School
Peachtree City
Middle GA Homeschoolers
Macon
*North Cobb High School
Kennesaw
Paldeia School
Atlanta
*Richmond Hill High School
Richmond Hill
Riverdale High School
Riverdale
*Southwest Magnet School
Macon
*Tri-Cities High School
East Point
Walton High School
Marietta
Woodward Academy
College Park

THESE SCHOOLS NEED COACHES!

As a member of the State Bar of Georgia, YOU can make a difference in your community by serving as a mentor to a team in your area!!

For more information, contact the mock trial office at (404) 527-8779 or toll free (800) 334-6865 ext. 779 or email mocktrial@gabar.org for online sign-up go to: www.gabar.org/mtjoinform.asp

An * indicates that these teams have NO COACHES!
President’s Corner
By Derek J. White

“All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten”¹

Recently I spoke to a group of second and third grade youngsters at a local elementary school. Throughout the presentation, I would answer various questions. About half way through, it dawned on me how polite and courteous each child was. Each child would raise his/her hand, wait until I acknowledged them, and then softly ask their question.

After my speech and the Q&A session, we all went to lunch. On the way to the lunchroom, the children walked in single file, did not talk, and addressed every other teacher we passed by either Mr. or Mrs. such and such. As we ate lunch, the children were well behaved, did not play with their food, and were amazingly quiet.

On the way back to the classrooms, the above behaviors were repeated. It was obvious that the children’s behaviors were not rehearsed simply to impress me, but were truly a part of each child’s character. Some days later, I received thank you letters from the children.

So if this is the case for all children of this age, what happens as they grow older? Why do they become more unruly as they become teenagers and young adults? I surmise it is the desire to belong, to grow older? Why do they become more unruly as they grow older? I surmise it is the desire to belong, to impress, to be acknowledged. But more so, I believe most unruly teenagers and young adults? I surmise it is the desire to belong, to impress, to be acknowledged. But more so, I believe most unruly children do not have a positive role model in their lives.

The YLD has recognized the lack of role models in the lives of some of the inner city students of Atlanta and decided to do something about it. Thus, the creation of the Aspiring Youth Program Committee. The goal of the committee is to assist at-risk middle school students by increasing their aspiration to graduate from high school and college by demonstrating the importance of education, hard work, commitment, respect for others, and self worth. All program activities take place during “latch-key” hours when these students are most often unsupervised. Younger lawyers in the community serve as the positive role models while developing mentoring relationships with the students.

The committee this year is chaired by Vicki Wiley, Malcolm Wells and Zahra Karinshak. They have been instrumental in the continued success of the program and the YLD, as well as the students, are indebted to their devoted service.

However, one younger attorney’s efforts and unselfish dedication to our profession deserves and demands special recognition. This person has devoted hundreds of hours in the past several years to being a positive role model for inner city students participating in the Aspiring Youth Program and has secured contributions from the community in the nature of capital funds and computers for the program. Unfortunately for the YLD, this person is aging out next year. Yet, his contributions will continue. As he is a principal of the firm Hill, Kertscher and Pixley, LLP, he has assured the YLD he will more than happily remain involved with the children of our State.

Fellow brothers and sisters of the legal profession, I am writing this article to honor Douglas Richard Kertscher, known to most simply as Doug. Doug truly epitomizes the YLD’s dedication to the public and our profession. He reminds us and students that all we need to be successful in this world we learned in Kindergarten, i.e. education, hard work, commitment, respect for others, and self worth. The YLD will sorely miss Doug and his devotion to the YLD. So if you get a chance, call Doug and tell him thanks for advancing the cause of the YLD and our noble profession.

¹This is the title of Robert Fulghum’s #1 bestseller of 1986.

NIL Moot Court’ con’t from front page

Sure for those law firms or attorneys who wish to participate or contribute financially to the competition. Each year, the competition is made possible through the generous contributions of sponsors whose names are prominently displayed throughout the competition.

This year’s sponsoring firms included: Bondurant, Mixson & Elmore; Butler, Wooten, Fryhofer, Daugherty & Sullivan; Holland & Knight; King & Spalding; Rogers & Hardin; Swift, Currie, McGhee & Hiers; Troutman Sanders; Warner, Mayoue, Bates, Nolen & Collar; Weinberg, Wheeler, Hudgins, Gunn & Dial; and Womble, Carlyle, Sandridge & Rice.

The committee extends its thanks to all participants, volunteers and sponsors for another successful regional competition!

BIG BROTHERS AND BIG SISTERS NEEDED

The YLD Litigation Committee is proud to announce that it will be working with the Metro Atlanta Big Brothers and Big Sisters program in order to help recruit volunteers to be a Big Brother or a Big Sister. If you would be interested in assisting, please contact Jay Doyle at (404) 221-2291; jdoyle@carlockcopeland.com or Dave Root at (404) 221-2253; droot@carlockcopeland.com.
The Aspiring Youth Program, sponsored by the Georgia YLD, recently began its fifth year of helping at-risk youth at Walden Middle School in downtown Atlanta.

Co-Chaired by YLD members Vicki Wiley, Zahra Karinshak and Malcolm Wells, the after-school program, an affiliate of the National Aspiring Youth Program (www.aspiringyouth.org) of Houston, Texas, kicked off this year with new programs for the 6th, 7th and 8th graders. For the first time, students will be participating in a “modern dance” learning program. Khadijah Abe, of AT&T, is teaching the female students a modern dance routine that will be performed at the concluding awards banquet. “So far, the girls are really enjoying it and really look forward to that part of the program,” said Committee Co-Chair Wiley, of the Dept. of Education legal department.

The second unique component in this year’s program is the use of the nearby Computer Club House. The students and lawyer volunteers walk to the Club House (located less than 1 mile from the school), where the students explore different types of software programs, learn to create computer files, take and store photos on the computer, and work on computer projects. New volunteer Demetra Ford introduced the Aspiring Youth participants to the Computer Club House, which is sponsored by Genesis Prevention Coalition and Intel, “This is a great example of how different community resources can be brought together to give the at-risk youth exposure to modern computer training that they would never have otherwise had,” said Co-Chair Karinshak, a counsel for the Governor’s office.

Other highlights this fall will include a visit by Taya Hargrove, Extradition Coordinator for the State of Georgia and author of the upcoming publication “Every Time I Close My Eyes.” She will talk to the students about how to become a published author. Her presentation fits nicely with a regular part of the program, an essay contest in which students are asked to write about those they admire. The winning essays, read at the awards banquet, often bring about great moments when the student has written about a parent or family member who is in attendance at the awards banquet.

Committee Co-Chair Malcolm Wells said that this year’s banquet speaker will be Gary S. Walker, Esq., Director of the Atlanta Office, Southern Division, U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights. At press time, the concluding banquet was scheduled for November 21, 2002, at 6:00 p.m. The YLD and committee Co-Chairs wish to thank outstanding volunteers Kara Klaiber, Kimberly Sanders, Wendy Campbell, Virgil Hollis, Beth Kertscher, Doug Kertscher, Demetra Ford, Cham and Sylvia Meredith, Tania Tuttle, Althea Murdock, Chris Leopold and Arthur Mangault.

The Program will begin again in the spring of 2003. Attorneys or non-attorneys interested in volunteering for the program, which runs from 3:15-5:30 p.m. at Walden Middle School and includes homework tutoring and a sports/sportsmanship component, can contact Vicki Wiley at vickimwiley@yahoo.com. The YLD appreciates your continued support of this long running example of the YLD’s commitment to the community.
MEET THE YLD OFFICER CANDIDATES

Damon E. Elmore
Candidate: YLD President Elect
Education: Savannah State University, B.A. magna cum laude, 1993; Emory University School of Law, Doctor of Law Degree, 1996
Employment: Former Assistant City Attorney, City of Atlanta, 1996-1998; Former Associate, Gory, Reeves, Peters & Burns, P.C., 1998-2002; Associate Counsel, Genuine Parts Company 2002-Present
American Bar Association Activities: Member, House of Delegates, American Bar Association-YLD, 1998; Co-Chair, American Bar Association Annual Meeting-YLD Host Committee, 1998; Co-Chair, American Bar Association- YLD Regional Meeting, 2001
State Bar of Georgia Activities: Fellow, Lawyers Foundation of Georgia; YLD Liaison, Advisory Committee on Legislation, 2001-2003; Member, Medical Insurance Task Force, 2001-2002; Member, Member Benefits Committee, 2001-2003; Treasurer, Young Lawyers Division, 2002-2003; Secretary, Young Lawyers Division, 2001-2002; Director, Young Lawyers Division, 1999-2000; Great Day of Service Task Force, Members in the Profession Committee; Chair, YLD Great Day of Service Committee, 1999; Co-Chair, YLD Great Day of Service Committee, 2000-2001; Chair, Disaster Legal Assistance Committee, 1998-2000; Chair, Minorities in the Profession Committee, 1999-2001; Member, Legislative Affairs Committee, 1999-2001; Member, Solo and Small Firm Practice Committee, 2000; Member, Minorities in the Profession Committee, 1997-2002; Distinguished Service Award, Young Lawyers Division, 1999-2000; Outstanding Service Award, Young Lawyers Division, 2000-2001
Atlanta Bar Association Activities: Member-At-Large, Atlanta Council of Younger Lawyers, 1999-2002; ACYL-YLD Liaison, 2002-2003
Civic Activities: Immediate Past Chair, Fulton County Court Appointed Special Advocates, 2001-2002; Involved in several other church, civic and community activities and organizations. He and his wife, Paulette, have a 1-½ year old daughter, Simone.

Laurel P. Landon
Candidate: YLD President Elect
Education: cum laude from the University of Georgia, 1990 with a B.S.Ed. in Educational Psychology. cum laude from the University of Georgia School of Law, 1993.
Bar Activities: District Representative, Director and currently a member of the Executive Committee, serving as Newsletter Editor, for the YLD; Member, of the Formal Advisory Opinion Board; President of the Young Lawyers of Augusta.
Civic Activities: Member of the Young Lawyers’ Alumni Committee for the University of Georgia School of Law; Board member for Kids Restart, Inc. (a/k/a Augusta Child Advocates); Director of the 2nd grade Sunday School department at First Baptist Church of Augusta.

Amand Farahany
Candidate: YLD President Elect
Employment: Currently a partner with Barret & Farahany, LLP. Clerked for the Honorable John H. Ruffin, Jr. at the Georgia Court of Appeals.
State Bar of Georgia Activities: Director of the Women in the Profession Committee; Speaker for State Bar of Georgia’s Institute for Continuing Legal Education; Served on the Executive Council of the YLD as at the Atlanta District Representative.
Legal Activities: Serves on the Executive Board of the Association of Trial Lawyers of America’s Inadequate Security Litigation Group; the Advisory Council to the National Crime Victim Bar Association, and the National Employment Lawyers Association, Georgia Chapter; President-Elect to the Atlanta Council for Younger Lawyers; Georgia delegate to the American Bar Association.
Other: Taught law students trial tactics as the coach of the Trial Advocacy Program at John Marshall Law School; Volunteers helping women who are victims of domestic violence, rape victims and homicide survivors, and educating victim advocates; Written and spoken extensively on litigating cases for civil justice for crime victims, and employment related issues; Most recently, she was the moderator for the ATLA Inadequate Security Litigation Group’s annual convention; Speaker for the American Bar Association and the National Employment Lawyers Association.

Jonathan A. Pope
Candidate: YLD Secretary
Employment: Partner, Hasty, Pope & Ball
State Bar of Georgia Activities: Past Member, Corporate Sponsorship Committee State Bar of Georgia Young Lawyers Division: Director and Executive Committee Member, 2000 to Present; Co-Chair, Sponsorship Committee, 2002 to Present; Chair, Membership and Affiliate Outreach Committee, 2001 to 2002; Chair, Membership Initiative Committee, 2000 to 2001; 9th District Executive Council Representative, 1998 to 2001; Committee Involvement: Solo and Small Practice, 2001 to Present; High School Mock Trial; William W. Daniel National Invitational Mock Trial; Appellate Admissions; and Bridge the Gap.

Blue Ridge Circuit Bar Association:
Past President, 2 terms; Bar Association was recipient of Liberty Bell Award and Award of Achievement by State Bar of Georgia.
Legal Activites: Georgia Trial Lawyer’s Association; American Trial Lawyer’s Association; American Bar Association; Southern Trial Lawyer’s Association; Lawyer’s Club of Atlanta; Old Warhorse Lawyer’s Club.
Other: Solicitor General of the City of Canton; Director, Cherokee County YMCA; Graduate, Leadership Cherokee; Member, Leadership Cherokee Steering Committee; Member, First Baptist Church of Canton; Life Member, Association of Citadel Men; Member, General’s Club, The Citadel Brigade Club, Atlanta Area Citadel Club; The Commerce Club of Atlanta; The Burns Club of Atlanta; and Gridiron Secret Society.

David S. Gruskin
Candidate: YLD Treasurer
Education: J.D. University of Georgia School of Law, 1996; B.S. Georgia Institute of Technology, 1992
Employment: The Partners Group/Docuforce, Vice President and Managing Partner, 1999-present; Atlanta; Gambrell & Stolz, Associate, 1998-1999; Atlanta; Oliver Maner & Gray, Associate, 1996-1998, Savannah; Georgia Municipal Association, Clerk, 1995 Atlanta
Activities: YLD Secretary, 2002-2003; Newsletter Editor, 2000-2001; Chair, American Bar Association Award of Achievement, 1999 & 2000; Director, 1998-2001; Executive Council, 1997-1999; District Representative, 1996-1998; Director of Ethics & Professionalism Committee, 1999; Director of Employers Duties Committee, 1999; Committee Chair, Career Issues Committee, 1999; Quality of Life Committee, 1997.

2002-2003 Election Schedule

December 13, 2002: Ballots mailed (Article VII, Section 7(c)) You may also vote on the web at www.gabar.org
January 24, 2003: Ballots must be received by 12 noon to be valid
January 25, 2003: Election Results available
Not so many years ago, you made the decision to become an attorney and the thought crossed your mind, at least once, that the world would be a better place with another attorney. The Young Lawyers Division of the Pro Bono committee is off to a great start this year. Derek White, the President of the YLD, has chosen “creating a positive image for attorneys in our communities” as the theme for his year of service. We have all heard the lawyer jokes and other stereotypical comments about our profession that usually cast us in a negative light. One of our goals this year is to provide our communities with some positive examples to replace the negative perception. What better way to create a positive image than to give back to our communities through pro bono work. Attorneys who donate their time and expertise to doing pro bono work provide equal access to justice to all citizens.

The committee has received a great deal of feedback concerning pro bono work and has determined that young lawyers fit into three main groups: active participants, those interested in representing clients pro bono, and those undecided about whether to represent clients pro bono. Many of you already contribute your time to pro bono work and to those we again say thank you and encourage you to continue touching the lives of others through the invaluable work that you are doing. We have also learned that many of you are interested in serving your communities through pro bono work, but are not sure how to become involved. We are dedicated to providing assistance and support to those young lawyers who are interested in providing pro bono services but may not have experience in their area of interest.

Below is a list of ten reasons to become a pro bono attorney, parts of which have been used in several counties throughout Georgia, for your consideration, encouragement and motivation.

**Top 10 Reasons To Become a Pro Bono Lawyer**

10. Large Unmet Need.
Providing pro bono representation helps fill the gap of unmet legal needs for low-income clients that have nowhere else to turn. Filling unmet legal needs also reduces the market filled by persons engaged in the unauthorized practice of law.

The benefits include: Georgia Legal Services Program and the Atlanta Legal Aid Society Inc. screen for case merit and financial eligibility; Volunteers accepting 3 or more Pro Bono cases receive a $100 ICLE voucher; Georgia Legal Services and Atlanta Legal Aid Society Inc. provide malpractice insurance protection for each pro bono case referred; the Court Reporters Project provides pro bono court reporting services to volunteers handling pro bono cases; Georgia Legal Services and the Atlanta Legal Aid Society, Inc. provide access to resource materials, specialist attorneys and back-up assistance; Georgia Legal Services provides free or discounted training and legal education seminars; Recognition in the State Bar Journal; and Yearly Pro Bono awards presented at the State Bar of Georgia annual meeting. This list is not exhaustive of the benefits provided to volunteers. Benefits may vary depending on the county in which you are doing the pro bono work.

8. It Is Your Professional Obligation.
RULE 6.1 VOLUNTARY PRO BONO PUBLICO SERVICE.

7. You should consider it your moral and religious obligation to help grant justice to the poor.

6. Pro Bono service helps improve the public image of attorneys.

Service to the public is an effective way to improve our public image.

5. Because you can.
You can choose how many cases you want to take and when you want to take them. If you have an overwhelmingly large caseload right now, you will hardly notice adding one more case. If your caseload is manageable right now, you can work in one more case.

4. Special Projects and Opportunities.
There is something for everyone. Opportunities include work with the Advocates for Special Needs Children Litigation Mentoring Project, The Truancy Intervention Project, SSI Kids Project, The AA Business Commitment Project of the State Bar of Georgia, and the GLSP’s Elder Abuse Prevention Project.

3. You can help make a real difference in a low income person’s life.
You can: help a family save their home; keep a child in school; help low income families access quality affordable health care; conduct an informational clinic or community education session for low-income clients; and provide quality legal assistance to displaced and homeless clients.

2. Pro Bono service helps protect the integrity of the legal system.
Pro bono service gives low income people a voice in the judicial system and reinforces the principles of democracy that makes the United States of America a strong and great nation.

1. Pro bono lawyers do it for free and it feels good when you’re done.
You might even learn something from your client.

If you would like to become involved in pro bono work or with the pro bono committee, please contact Ryan Schneider 404.885.2773; ryan.schneider@troutmansanders.com or Tonya Boga 770.528.1583; tboga@lawyer.com.

**15TH ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST**

**Friday, January 17, 2003**

7:30am - 10:00 am

Empire Room

James H. “Sloppy” Floyd Building

Atlanta, Georgia

MEET the leaders of the General Assembly

and

GET their perspective on legislative issues of interest to you!

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**YLD Legislative Breakfast Registration**

Friday, January 17, 2003

$25 per person (breakfast buffet)

$150 for table of 8

Total Enclosed: __________________________

Names: __________________________

________________________

________________________

________________________

Questions? Call the YLD office at (404) 527-8778

Mail to: YLD, 104 Marietta St., NW, Suite 100, Atlanta, GA 30303

Make checks payable to the State Bar of Georgia
It’s been two or three years, maybe even longer, since you prepared your resume. Most likely, you prepared it while you were in law school. Now, you are considering pursuing new career opportunities and you need to revamp your resume. Here are some tips on drafting your second professional resume.

Resume headings generally include Experience, Education, Affiliations or Professional Activities, Awards, Publications and Licenses. You may not have information to put under all the headings right now, but it is important to keep them in mind when assembling your professional history.

The most significant difference between a law student’s resume and a lawyer’s resume is that “Experience” goes first! Although your education is vital, on lateral moves it is your experience that will open the door. Be careful what you list as experience. Resumes have a way of finding their way back to current employers and the legal community is small. Keep everything as accurate as possible but use flattering language!

How to list your bar association efforts is a difficult decision. It is important to list your accomplishments in a way that accurately reflects your commitment to the profession. If you are contemplating sending it to a firm that may not be enlightened on the virtues of the good work of the bar, however, remember to limit this section. It may be perceived as something that will lower your number of billable hours. (Of course, that is not the case, but if they are not enlightened, you will need to work from the inside to change their minds.) This same principle should be used for listing hobbies, interests, etc. If you are applying to a firm that does not promote professionalism and balance in your personal life, consider very carefully what information you include on your resume. Dangerous hobbies such as scuba diving, skydiving, hunting, etc. make hiring and managing partners very nervous when they consider their health and disability insurance costs.

Licenses or professional designations are very important to include. If you have licenses from your “prior” life, such as a real estate sales license or series 7 broker’s license, be sure to include them. These achievements help demonstrate the additional skill sets that you bring to the table as well as the contacts you have within a particular industry.

Resume lengths vary, as does the advice on length. Remember that any material over two pages is not likely to be read. You should put the most important items on the first page in case the reviewer does not look at page two. If you are using two pages, make sure you staple them together.

If you are applying to be a law professor or to another type of academic institution, they will ask for a curriculum vitae (“CV”). The “CV” is expected to be lengthy and to include almost everything you have done from college forward. In this type of resume you would include publications, speeches and presentations as well as any additional coursework you may have done in a specific discipline.

Make sure your resume is consistent. For example, if you list your JD as “Juris Doctor”, then refer to your BBA as “Bachelor of Business Administration.” You should also keep the style uniform, e.g., with consistent use of phrases and punctuation throughout the document.

Remember that your resume is a marketing piece that must contain accurate information in a conservative format. When choosing font and color paper, keep in mind that your resume will be photocopied and passed around the firm or organization where you are applying. Before you send your resume, put it on a marginal copier and see how it looks.

If you have other resume questions, please email me at howell@law.stetson.edu Good luck!
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YLD FALL MEETING SCORES A TOUCHDOWN!

The YLD Fall Meeting took place November 1-3 at the Casa Monica Hotel in St. Augustine, FL. The Business meeting took place on Saturday morning with an introduction of the Fall meeting sponsors. Other weekend festivities included a poolside ‘Gator Fry’ group dinner on Friday evening and tailgating before the Georgia v. Florida game on Saturday night.

The YLD would like to thank the following individuals and companies for their generous support of the YLD Fall meeting:

- Atlanta LegaLink
- Bull Associates, Inc.
- Butler, Wooten, Fryhofer, Daughtery & Sullivan
- Crowne Office Suites
- Esquire Deposition Services
- Amanda Farahany for YLD Secretary
- Insurance Specialist, Inc.
- Jonathan A. Pope for YLD Secretary
- Charles T. Schell & John T. Bair
- Wired Resources

Looking for a fun way to get involved in your local community? Want to make a difference in a child’s life and motivate them to learn? Want a good excuse to get out from behind the stacks of paperwork that are piling up on your desk? Try getting involved with a local YLD Kids and Justice project!

Kids and Justice is a YLD-sponsored program that places practicing attorneys into local elementary school classrooms to teach fifth graders some basics of Georgia law and what it means to be a lawyer. The program uses lesson plans developed by the Law Related Education (LRE) Consortium. You can work with your local school, however, to develop a program that meets the needs of both the attorney volunteer(s) and the fifth-grade classes. The time commitment is up to you and the sponsoring teacher.

The Kids and Justice project in Athens has about a dozen attorneys who rotate teaching two lessons per month during the school year. The lessons are coordinated with the fifth-grade curriculum. For example, constitutional law topics are taught by attorneys at the same time the students are learning about the signing of the Constitution. In the spring, the Athens project culminates with a simple mock trial with students assuming the roles of judge, attorneys, and witnesses.

Now is the time to contact your local elementary school and introduce yourself and the Kids and Justice program. Standing in front of twenty-five fifth-graders teaching them about Georgia’s laws on robbery and forgery is a worthwhile endeavor and a tremendous break during your work week. You also get the benefit of being involved in the local community and gaining a real sense of service to your local schools.

If you are interested in establishing a local Kids and Justice project or joining an existing project in your area, contact one of the Kids and Justice Committee Co-Chairs Mike McCleary at (706) 548-1151 or email at mjm@fbglaw.com or Malcolm Wells at (404) 656-6012 or email at mawells@dch.state.ga.us for more information.

Basketball Fun

Fifteen young lawyers hosted fifteen foster children from the Fulton County DFACS at the October 25th Atlanta Hawks basketball game. Five foster parents and a DFACS staff member also joined the fun. A great time was had by all and the Hawks won! Thanks are due to the volunteer attorneys, Turner’s Hawks Foundation, the law firm of Hunton & Williams for donating game tickets and event organizer Brian McEvoy of Chilivis, Cochran, Larkins & Bever LLP. The Community Service Committee plans to have more activities with metro area DFACS children throughout the bar year.

If you are interested in participating in future events, please email committee co-chairs Amy Alcocke, aalcoke@hunton.com or Shelley Senterfitt, ssenterfitt@hunton.com.

Young Lawyers Division Calendar of Events

DECEMBER

4 Minorities in the Profession Meeting
5 Women in the Profession Meeting
7 Gift sorting with DFAC’s
23-25 State Bar office closed - Happy Holidays!

JANUARY

1 State Bar office closed - Happy New Year!
7 Juvenile Law Committee Meeting
8 Minorities in the Profession Meeting
9-12 Midyear Meeting
15 Great Day of Service deadline to identify local contact
17 15th Annual Legislative Affairs Breakfast
23 Women in the Profession Meeting

FEBRUARY

3 Great Day of Service deadline to indentify local projects
6-9 ABA/YLD Midyear Conference
17 State Bar office closed - Presidents Day

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!
Saturday, May 03, 2003
GREAT DAY OF SERVICE VIII

GREAT DAY OF SERVICE VIII

Saturday, May 03, 2003
MAKING A GOOD THING BETTER

If you are a regular reader of this newsletter, you are aware of all the great things that the YLD does for the public and the bar. In this issue alone, you can read about lawyers taking DFACS children to a sporting event, lawyers teaching fifth-graders about the law, and lawyers performing an annual day of service. You are also aware of the great things the YLD does for the bar, including providing informative CLE courses and addressing career issues.

The Georgia YLD is recognized by the ABA every year for having some of the best programs and service projects in the country. A lot of hard work and dedication has gone into building this organization and making it what it is today. We all owe a debt of gratitude to those who came before us for the legacy they have created and for the many young lawyers who make the organization great today.

All that being said, I am a firm believer that there is always room for improvement. There are more and different projects we could be doing to serve our communities and the bar and there is room for more young lawyers to participate in the projects we already have underway. There are also things we can do from an organizational standpoint to make the organization more effective.

I have some ideas of my own in this regard. However, I am more interested in getting your ideas on these issues. If you are actively involved in the YLD, as a committee member, committee chair, district representative, director, or officer, you are in a unique position to know the strengths and weaknesses of the YLD. Many of you already have ideas about how to improve the workings of the YLD. I would like to hear them.

For those of you who are not involved in the YLD, you are also a tremendous source of information. Are there things you would like to see the YLD do and would commit to help with? Many of you have been members of bars of other states. I know you can share some ideas about good things the bar was doing in those places. Almost all of you are members of other organizations and can share ideas from their undertakings.

My e-mail address is llandon@kilpatrickstockton.com and my direct dial number is (706) 823-4270. Please contact me with any ideas you have about how to make the YLD better. We cannot rest on our laurels but must continue to progress so that we can remain a great organization. Thank you and Happy Holidays!!

Submission deadline for the next newsletter is February 7, 2003