The Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Georgia is gearing up for the Seventh Annual Great Day of Service scheduled for Saturday, April 27, 2002. Attorney’s from over 10 communities across the state are slated to participate in this year’s event. Last year’s Great Day involved the volunteer efforts of over 100 people statewide. It’s estimated that attorney’s and their families and friends donated over 500 hours of time to local charities. The Great Day of Service Task Force anticipates that at least 250 people will participate in this year’s Great Day event, doubling the number of donated time.

To volunteer for a Great Day of Service project, call the contact person listed for the community nearest you. ALL attorneys, young and old(er), are asked to participate. IT’S NEVER TOO LATE TO VOLUNTEER TO HELP OTHERS!!!

### Projects

- **Albany**  
  - Project to be announced  
  - Contact: Patrick Eidson (229) 435-5681

- **Americus**  
  - Project to be announced  
  - Contact: Cavan Perry (229) 888-3338

- **Atlanta**  
  - Oak Hill Homes clean up  
  - Contact: Susan Burgess (404) 256-6526

- **Augusta**  
  - Project to be announced  
  - Contact: Constance Boken (706) 849-4443

- **Columbus**  
  - Domestic Violence Task Force  
  - Contact: Michele Ivey (706) 653-4336

- **Decatur**  
  - Project to be announced  
  - Contact: Beth Kertscher (404) 377-8644

- **Gainesville**  
  - Project to be announced  
  - Contact: Kiesha Storey (770) 531-6965

- **Macon**  
  - Project to be announced  
  - Contact: Miguel Garcia (478) 757-8500

- **Valdosta**  
  - Project to be announced  
  - Contact: Latesha Bradley (229) 333-5232

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**Eat, Drink and be Merry!**

The young lawyers of the State Bar of Georgia invite you to gather for an evening of camaraderie, conversation and cocktails!

**Park Tavern**

500 Tenth St., NE  
Atlanta, GA 30309

**Thursday, April 18, 2002**

6:00pm - 8:00pm

Don’t miss this opportunity to see old friends and classmates and meet other young lawyers. It’s great for networking and learning how you can get involved. If you know someone who’s interested in getting involved with the YLD, bring ‘em along.

Complimentary parking and drink tickets. For more information, contact the YLD office at 404-527-8778 or jackie@gabar.org

Sponsored by the YLD Membership & Affiliate Outreach Committee
THE WEDDING GIFT

I had planned to “gift” my column this issue to the YLD President Elect Derek White who was recently married in Savannah. I knew that Derek was in the initial stages of planning his year and could write this column to recruit his committee chairs, recruit executive council candidates, and detail the wonderful meeting sites he had planned for later in the year. My conscience (not to mention, my wife) let me know that asking Derek to write my column was not an appropriate “gift.” In order to satisfy everyone, I realized that Derek deserved a nice “gift,” so I am not going to ask him to write this column — I am going to write it for him!

Top Ten Reasons to Get Involved and Support the YLD during Derek’s year as President:

10. The YLD provides leadership opportunities.
The leadership of the YLD is composed of officers, directors, and the Executive Council, made up of two young lawyers from each congressional district as well as members at large. Each of these positions on the Executive Council will be nominated at the spring meeting in Savannah on April 6, immediately following the Executive Council meeting on Saturday morning. If you are interested in serving on the Executive Council, please make plans to attend the spring meeting in Savannah. If you are interested in serving as a committee chair for one of the committees described below, contact Derek at (912)330-9733 or contact Jackie Indek, YLD Director, at (404)527-8778.

9. The YLD has 34 committees offering service to the public and profession.
The reputation of the YLD as the public service arm of the State Bar is built on the excellent work of its committees. There are opportunities to serve as a chair or co-chair of a committee by contacting Derek now.

8. The YLD has five meeting per year in wonderful locations.
After the YLD meeting in Savannah on April 5, 2002, Derek’s first business meeting will be at Amelia Island during the annual meeting on June 13-16, 2002. In addition to that great meeting location, other meetings later this year will be held at Seapines on August 23-25, 2002 and at St. Augustine November 1-3, 2002.

7. The YLD is free to join.
Unlike many organizations, the public service and leadership opportunities offered by the YLD are absolutely free and there is no charge to join the YLD.

6. The YLD membership is automatic for anyone under the age of 36.
Not only is membership “free,” you are also automatically included on the mailing lists for our newsletter and you are a member of the YLD if you are under the age of 36.

5. The YLD provides great networking opportunities.
A benefit of attending meetings, committee meetings, and social events is to meet with other lawyers in your practice area. These contacts often result in a later telephone call or an e-mail offering new business to you and your firm. If you would like to attend a social event and learn more about the YLD, then join us at the Park Tavern in Atlanta on Thursday April 18, 2002 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. for a Spring Happy Hour.

4. The YLD publishes an award-winning newsletter.
In four of the last five years, this newsletter has been recognized as the best in the country by the American Bar Association. That record of success can only improve as Derek begins to write his own columns.

3. The YLD represents young lawyers on the State Bar Executive Committee.
The Executive Committee has 14 members and three of those are young lawyers. The young lawyers have an important voice in every aspect of State Bar activities, and involvement in the YLD can lead to that important leadership position.

2. The YLD is comprised of 8,200 young lawyers statewide.
The YLD involves lawyers from all over the state, involves lawyers from every conceivable type of practice, and has specific committees designed to involve women and minorities in the YLD.

1. I am writing this column from Costa Rica where I am attending the YLD Caribbean seminar.
Every year the YLD hosts a Caribbean seminar in various locations, and this year’s trip was to Costa Rica. In fact, I hope to see Derek here in Costa Rica, and I plan to ask him how he likes his Wedding Gift.
Do You Know a Young Lawyer Who Deserves Recognition for His or Her Practice in the Area of Criminal Law?

then nominate him or her for the

2001 COMMITMENT TO JUSTICE AWARD

The Criminal Law Committee of the YLD is now accepting nominations for its annual Commitment to Justice Award. This award honors an outstanding young lawyer (age 36 or younger, or in practice for less than 5 years regardless of age) for his or her commitment and dedication to criminal justice.

This year, two awards will be presented to the lawyers – one from the prosecution and one from the criminal defense bar – who best embody the qualities of professionalism, social and community awareness, a high degree of integrity, a strong working knowledge of the law, a desire to challenge and create new law, and exceptional advocacy skills.

Letters of nomination should include the candidates name and age, the number of years in practice, whether the lawyer is a prosecutor or member of the defense bar, and 150-500 words on why this young lawyer is exceptional. Please contact Sara Yeager at styeager@yeagerlawoffices.com or Scott Semrau at scottpsemrau@hotmail.com with nominations or for more information.

The award will be presented to the recipient during the YLD Awards Brunch at the State Bar of Georgia’s Annual Meeting in Amellia Island, Florida, June 13-16, 2002.
The Advocates for Children with Special Needs Committee of the Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Georgia focuses on the special education needs and concerns of Georgia’s children. We strive to improve access to legal counsel and information on special education issues. We are aware that children with disabilities are too often ignored by public schools and that parents often need assistance in gaining equal access to a meaningful education for their children with disabilities. To that end, we are creating a video in both English and Spanish that will educate and empower these parents. The videos will explain their rights under both federal and state law and will offer techniques and advice that parents can use to better advocate for their children. To achieve this goal, we have joined forces with the Georgia Advocacy Office, a private non-profit agency that is designated by the Governor to provide protection and advocacy for people with disabilities and the Juvenile Advocacy Division of the Georgia Indigent Defense Council, a division of a state agency that provides support and consultation to attorneys representing clients within the Juvenile Courts in Administrative Hearings. Funding for the project has come from a variety of sources, including a $2000 grant from the American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division through their 2001-2002 Public Service Subgrants Affiliate Outreach Project. Anyone interested in any further information on the project can contact Ali Marin by phone at (404) 894-2595 or email at amarin@gidc.state.ga.us.

Minorities in the Profession Committee Awarded Subgrant to Assist Abused and Neglected Children

By: Damon E. Elmore

The YLD has been awarded an American Bar Association-Young Lawyers Division Public Service subgrant through the Affiliate Outreach Project. The award, one of the highest dollar amounts distributed for the 2001-2002 bar year, is made up of funds available from the American Bar Association Fund for Justice and Education. The award will assist in the preparation of a promotional and informational video to highlight the Fulton County Court Appointed Special Advocates, Inc. (CASA). The video is the first step in a newly formed partnership between the Minorities in the Profession Committee (MIPC) of the YLD and CASA.

A special emphasis has been placed on the needs and issues associated with youth and teens by the YLD for the 2001-2002 bar year. In conjunction with that emphasis, the MIPC developed a partnership with CASA, to work together and continue the commitment of training and supervising volunteers who advocate for the best interests of abused and neglected children involved in deprivation proceedings. It was determined that a video production, outlining the mission, accomplishments and people who make-up CASA, would accomplish that task.

The history of service to the public by the Georgia YLD runs deep. Through the work of its committees (Advocates for Special Needs Children; Aspiring Youth Program; Community Service Projects; Disaster Legal Assistance; Elder Law; High School Mock Trial; Intrastate Moot Court; Kids and Justice; Law Awareness for Youth; National Moot Court; William Daniel National Invitational Mock Trial, and the Youth Judicial Program), and special projects (Great Day of Service; Community Service Committee Project), a regular and repeated-statewide emphasis of service in our community is projected. The 2001-2002 bar year is even more special because its core focus is on the issues of youth and teens. New committees have been formed to address the issues, and new commitments created. The partnership of the MIPC with CASA is one such commitment.

Fulton County CASA is a volunteer program committed to making the juvenile justice system and the community more responsive to the needs of abused and neglected children. Children served are victims of physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse and/or neglect and range in age from newborn to eighteen years. In 2000, more than 3300 children were involved in new deprivation proceedings in the Fulton County Juvenile Court. The objectives of CASA are to provide watch over those children with a trained and committed volunteer and to serve as the eyes and ears of the court, while advocating for abused and neglected children-one at a time. Often times, the issues of abuse and neglect overlap with greater issues of truancy and delinquency. Evolving from a court-based program into a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, CASA has been there as these national trends shift, offering means of prevention, permanent placement and consistent advocacy in a child’s life. These important goals, however, have not reached a broader audience, an audience that can aid with volunteer and financial support.

It is the aim of the MIPC/CASA partnership to provide a video in this era of technological overindulgence that will bring the message to a larger group. With that awareness, greater concern and increased funding should be the immediate impact. The more volunteers, the more meaningful relationships develop and the less chance of failure. The more funding, the broader the services provided and greater innovation developed for the needs of the children served. This promotional and fundraising video will display the work being done and the hurdles which remain for a segment of the population whose voice is often not heard. Community groups, law firms, business organizations, and other entities who have the goal of making the juvenile justice system and the community more responsive to the needs of abused and neglected children will have a firsthand account of what is at stake.

For additional inquiries or follow-up information about CASA, please contact Belinda Pedroso, Executive Director at 404.730.5413 or fulcasa@aol.com. For more information about the Minorities in the Profession Committee, please contact Brad Gardner at 404.522.1400 or bradgardner@earthlink.com.
The YLD once again successfully hosted the William W. Daniel National Mock Trial Competition in November 2001. After two grueling days of competition Loyola University of Los Angeles School of Law beat out Loyola University of Chicago, the defending champion, in the final round of competition.

To advance to the finals both schools ran through three preliminary rounds without losing a match-up. In the semi-finals Loyola of Los Angeles faced off against The University of Buffalo, while Loyola University of Chicago narrowly defeated the number one seed Georgia State University, College of Law.

The Daniel Competition is the largest national trial competition for law schools solely sponsored by a state bar organization. It is an annual competition held in November at the Fulton County Courthouse. Twenty law schools from around the country send trial teams to play both sides of a criminal law problem, requiring students to present evidence, direct and cross examine witnesses and make opening and closing statements. Each team is judged by practicing attorneys, all volunteers, who determine which team put together the best presentation of the case.

This year’s competition also marked the first year in which scholarships were given. Through the generous grant of the State Bar’s Criminal Law Section, the Committee was able to award $5,000.00 in scholarship money. $4,000 was split between the teams in the finals and $1,000 was awarded to participating students as a result of their individual achievements. Included among the award recipients was Chris Cohilas of Georgia State University, College of Law, who was one recipient of the Best Advocate Award.

Loyola University of Chicago and McGeorge School of Law were co-winners of the Thomas O. Marshall, Jr. award for most professional team. This is an award unique to the Daniel competition and is given to the team displaying the most professional and civil behavior in the courtroom. The award was designed to foster and encourage students to compete with each other in a manner consistent with what is expected of practicing attorneys.

The Committee wishes to thank the hundred or so attorneys and judges who agreed to volunteer their time and serve as jurors and evaluators. Without them, the competition would not be as successful as it has been. As we begin to plan the 2002 competition, the Committee would like to hear from anyone interested in helping with the planning. Please contact Jeremy Citron at (678) 778-0070 or email at jerry_citron@hotmail.com to volunteer.
HELP A VICTIM OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE BY DONATING TOILETRIES AND USED CELL PHONES

The Women in the Profession and Community Service Committees of the Georgia Bar’s Younger Lawyers’ Division are co-sponsoring a drive to collect toiletries and used cell phones for organizations helping victims of domestic violence. The cell phones will be activated to call emergency phone numbers and distributed to those who are in danger of domestic violence. Donated cell phones must include chargers. We will also be collecting toiletry items to provide to emergency shelters. If you have unopened bottles of shampoo, toothpaste, soap, or other toiletry items, these items are greatly needed (see list below). We will be collecting these items at collection sites throughout Atlanta from March 11 through March 22. We will also be collecting these items at the Spring Bar Meeting in Savannah on April 5 and April 6. Please make a donation and help a victim of domestic violence. If you have questions, please contact Lexi Liner at (404) 659-6700 or liner@elarbeethompson.com.

Toilettry items needed: shampoo, toilet paper, diapers, baby wipes, toothpaste, garbage bags, Lysol, towels, hair brushes, laundry detergent, dish detergent, wash clothes, bug spray, bleach soap, razors, deodorant. All items must be unused/unopened.

* Source for statistics: The Georgia Commission on Family Violence

Atlanta Collection Sites for Cell Phones and Toiletries:

State Bar of Georgia
800 The Hurt Building
50 Hurt Plaza
Contact: Jackie Indek

Butler, Wooten, Overby, Fryhofer, Daughtery & Sullivan
2719 Buford Hwy
Contact: Leigh Martin

Elarbee, Thompson, Sapp & Wilson
800 International Tower
Peachtree Center
Contact: Lexi Liner

Quirk & Quirk
2964 Peachtree Road, N.E.
450 Buckhead Centre
Contact: Joe Farrell

Ford & Harrison
1275 Peachtree Street, Suite 600
Contact: Yoon Kim

Hunton & Williams
Bank of America Plaza
Suite 4100
600 Peachtree St.
Contact: Amy Alcoke

Kutak Rock
2100 South Tower
Peachtree Center
Contact: Michelle Adams

Parker, Hudson, Rainer & Dobbs
1500 Marquis Two Tower
285 Peachtree Center Ave.
Contact: Marc Liner

Powell, Goldstein, Frazer & Murphy
191 Peachtree Street
16th Floor
Contact: Rita Treadwell

Annual Legislative Breakfast
a Popular Forum for Georgia’s Lawyer-Legislators

On January 18, 2002, the Legislative Affairs Committee of the Young Lawyers Division hosted its Fourteenth Annual Legislative Breakfast for a diverse crowd of lawyer-legislators, judges, young lawyers and guests. Over 150 people gathered to listen to representatives of the three branches of state government discuss pending legislation and issues affecting the practice of law.

For many in attendance, topics discussed by panelists often prove to be early indicators of hot-button issues to come before next year’s legislature. The crowd listened intently as members of the panel talked about topics ranging from updating the statewide election system, indigent defense, the legislative process and the growth of the Georgia court system.

Panel members included Secretary of State Cathy Cox, Chief Justice Norman Fletcher, Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Rene D. Kemp, House of Representatives Judiciary Committee Chairman Thomas C. Bordeaux, Jr., Court of Appeals Judge John J. Ellington and Court of Appeals Judge Anne E. Barnes.

State Bar of Georgia
800 The Hurt Building
50 Hurt Plaza
Contact: Jackie Indek

Butler, Wooten, Overby, Fryhofer, Daughtery & Sullivan
2719 Buford Hwy
Contact: Leigh Martin

Elarbee, Thompson, Sapp & Wilson
800 International Tower
Peachtree Center
Contact: Lexi Liner

Quirk & Quirk
2964 Peachtree Road, N.E.
450 Buckhead Centre
Contact: Joe Farrell

Ford & Harrison
1275 Peachtree Street, Suite 600
Contact: Yoon Kim

Hunton & Williams
Bank of America Plaza
Suite 4100
600 Peachtree St.
Contact: Amy Alcoke

Kutak Rock
2100 South Tower
Peachtree Center
Contact: Michelle Adams

Parker, Hudson, Rainer & Dobbs
1500 Marquis Two Tower
285 Peachtree Center Ave.
Contact: Marc Liner

Powell, Goldstein, Frazer & Murphy
191 Peachtree Street
16th Floor
Contact: Rita Treadwell

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Secrets to Winning an Award of Achievement

It’s that time of year again! The annual Awards of Achievement program, which provides a means of identifying and recognizing the outstanding and innovative programming being implemented by YLD affiliates throughout the country will start collecting applications in June.

What does it take to win an Award of Achievement? Here are some helpful hints offered by the ABA Young Lawyers Division:

- Pay Attention to the Objectives
- Read the Rules Carefully
- Neatness Counts
- Creativity Counts
- Answer all the Questions
- Clarity, Clarity, Clarity
- Meet the Deadline

The process begins mid-March when Awards of Achievement applications will be sent to all chairs and cochairs. Leigh Martin, Awards of Achievement chairperson, will be collecting completed applications to be submitted to the ABA. For more information, please contact Leigh at (404) 321-1700 or leigh@butlerwooten.com.

Would you like your committee’s upcoming activities to be included in the quarterly calendar? Please contact Laurel Landon at LLandon@kilpatrickstockton.com or David Gruskin at dgruskin@partners-group.com with your information.

Memories from the Midyear Meeting!

The 2002 Midyear Meeting of the State Bar of Georgia took place the weekend of January 10-12 at the Swissôtel in Atlanta. Meeting highlights included the YLD Business Meeting, a Welcome Reception and Scotch Tasting sponsored by the YLD Membership & Affiliate Outreach Committee and the weekends finale- the YLD Group Dinner at Maggiano’s Italian Restaurant.

We look forward to seeing you in Savannah April 5-7, 2002 for the Board of Governor’s/Young Lawyers Division Spring Meeting and June 13-16, 2002 in Amelia Island, FL for the State Bar of Georgia’s Annual Meeting. If you would like information about future meetings, please contact the YLD office at (404) 527-8778 or email jackie@gabar.org.
THE PURPOSES OF THE YLD

What are the purposes of the YLD? As I am sure all of you know, having memorized the Bylaws of the Young Lawyers Division along with the Georgia Rules of Professional Conduct immediately upon entry to the bar, the purposes of the YLD are spelled out in Section 2 of the Bylaws, said section appropriately being named “Purpose”. I thought it would be helpful for all of us to think about the purposes of the YLD to examine whether we believe we are fulfilling those purposes as an organization and as individual young lawyers.

I have listed the purposes below with a few of my thoughts.

(a) to foster among the members of the bar of this State the principles of duty and service to the public;
(b) to improve the administration of justice;
(c) to advance the science of law;
(d) to further the aims, purposes and ideals of the State Bar of Georgia;
(e) to foster discussion and interchange of ideas relating to the duties, responsibilities and problems of the younger members of the State Bar of Georgia;
(f) to aid and promote the advancement of the younger members of the State Bar of Georgia in the activities of the bar;
(g) to encourage the interest and participation of the younger members of the State Bar of Georgia in the activities of the bar; and,
(h) to provide a full and complete program of activities and projects in those areas of the bar in which the younger member is particularly suited.

These three purposes show that YLD has a special responsibility to the younger lawyer. I believe the YLD does a good job of providing programs and projects for the younger lawyer. In addition, the YLD aids and promotes the advancement of younger lawyers in bar activities by providing a number of scholarships to YLD meetings. I would like to see us do more to encourage interest and participation of younger lawyers. If you have never been involved in any YLD activity or committee, what would interest you and cause you to participate?

These are my thoughts. I am more interested, however, in your thoughts. This is your organization. If you do not believe these purposes are being met, or if you believe the purposes should be changed, or if you believe more could be done to achieve these purposes, please let me or someone else know. The officers, directors, executive council members and committee chairs of this organization welcome your ideas, suggestions and, most of all, your participation, in fulfilling our purposes.

Deadline for submission to Summer Issue: May 3rd

YLD COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE ANNOUNCES ITS EARTH DAY 2002 SERVICE PROJECT

ENJOY A DAY OUTDOORS ON APRIL 21, 2002 AND GET BACK TO NATURE!!

The State Bar of Georgia Young Lawyers Division Community Service Committee needs VOLUNTEERS for its EARTH DAY 2002 SERVICE PROJECT at the OUTDOOR ACTIVITY CENTER in Atlanta. Please join us from 1:00 - 4:00 P.M. ON APRIL 21, 2002. Projects include rehabilitating nature trails, repairing natural habitat playground and protecting trees from weeds.

If you would like to volunteer or would like more information, please contact Amy Alcoke at (404) 888-4288 or aalcoke@hunton.com.


See you in Savannah

The State Bar of Georgia Board of Governors along with the Young Lawyer Division is returning to its old stomping grounds of Savannah, GA for an exciting and fun filled Spring Meeting April 5-7, 2002!

The Young Lawyers Division portion of the meeting kicks off with the YLD Group Dinner on Friday, April 5th at the Olde Pink House. We’ll meet in the YLD Hospitality Suite then head off to dinner in open air trolleys. The meeting convenes with the YLD Business Meeting scheduled for Saturday, April 6th from 10am - 11:30am. Following the Business Meeting, join members of the law community in painting and improving the Chatham Savannah Youth Futures Authority Youth Center at the St. Pius X Family Resource Center. YLD members can then have dinner on their own or join the Big Bar for its “Taste of the South” Dinner featuring live music and a sampling of Southern cuisine and beverages from the great states of Florida, Georgia, Louisiana & Texas.

To reserve your room at the Westin Savannah Harbor Resort, please call the hotel directly at (800) 937-8461. Please tell them you are with the State Bar of Georgia. Reservations must be made by March 1, 2002, as rooms will be on a space and rate availability basis after this date. See you in Savannah!