



The YLD Review

The State Bar of Georgia — Working for the Profession and the Public

Volume 45 , Issue 4

Young Lawyers Division

Summer 2004

Arrrrr!

YLD Members Have Swashbucklin' Time on High Seas

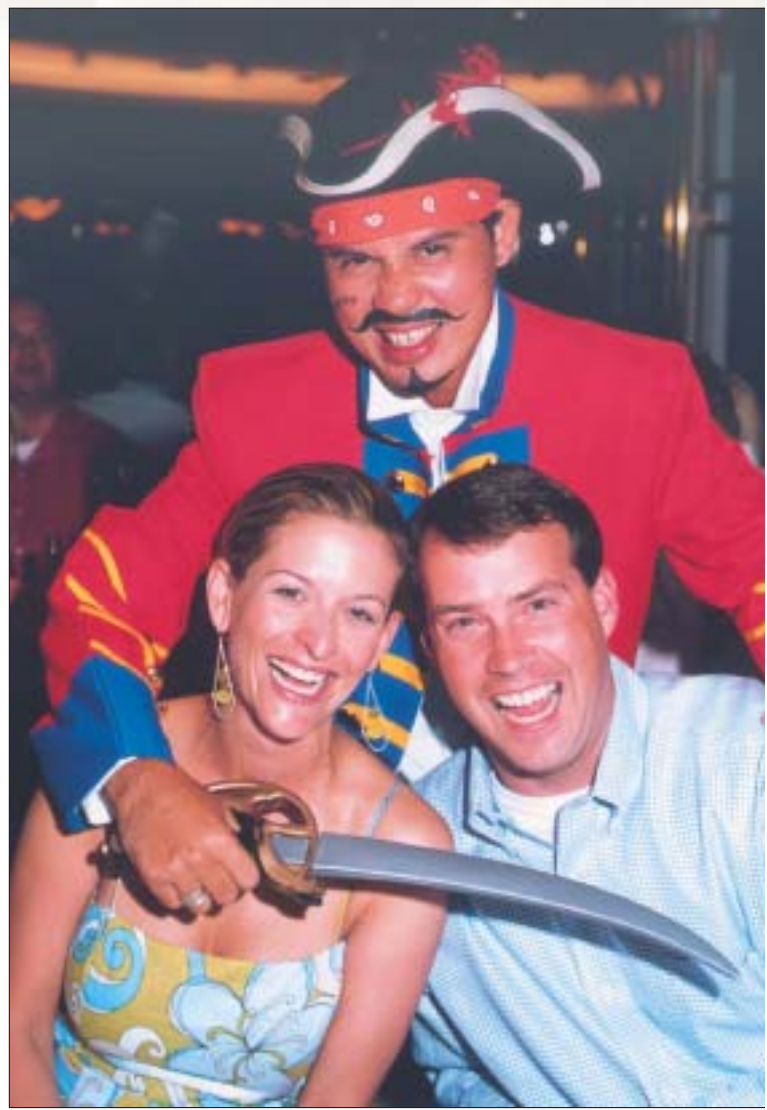
The Young Lawyers Division held its Spring 2004 meeting aboard Royal Caribbean's Majesty of the Seas April 16-19.

As the ship departed Miami, the YLD group of 80 enjoyed a cocktail reception courtesy of **Donovan Court Reporting**, a cruise sponsor. After a group dinner Friday evening, many members found themselves on stage with a microphone in front of a large

audience singing karaoke in the "Paint Your Wagon" lounge.

Saturday and Sunday were days to explore Nassau or Paradise Island and visit the casino or shops at Atlantis or just relax. The YLD would like to thank the other cruise sponsors: **Butler, Wooten, Fryhofer, Daughtery & Sullivan, LLP** and **Forge Consulting**.

See page 4 for additional Spring 2004 YLD cruise photos. 🏴‍☠️



Ashley and YLD President Andrew Jones.



The town square in Nassau, Bahamas.

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from the
President

Thank You for a Great Year

by Andrew W. Jones

It's hard to believe that my term as YLD president has come and gone. It seems like just yesterday I was getting sworn in as president by the Hon. Justice Carley.

As they say, time flies when you're having fun. The primary goal of my term was to increase involvement by the younger lawyers of the large Atlanta firms in the YLD. I am happy to report that the YLD has seen large firm involvement increase dramatically over the last year. New faces and new ideas are what help keep the YLD strong and vibrant. I hope the large Atlanta law firms will continue to encourage their younger lawyers to participate in the YLD. In addition to being good for your career, Bar work is rewarding and a great way to improve the overall opinion of lawyers in our communities.

Without the help of many people my term as president would not have run as smoothly and been as enjoyable. Special thanks go out to all of the members of the YLD executive council, committee chairs and committee volunteers. I especially want to thank all of the younger lawyers who agreed to serve on the YLD board of directors. Everyone involved helped to keep the YLD committees focused and productive. Without their help, there is no way I could have managed all of the successful projects that the younger lawyers are doing around the state.

I also want to thank the younger lawyers who helped to organize our meetings. Specifically, Chuck Auslander and Rich Connelly of Athens who did a great job organizing our fall meeting for the Georgia vs. Alabama game. Chuck and Rich were the architects of one of the most successful tailgate parties I have ever had the pleasure of attending. The event was such a success that Laurel Landon, the incoming YLD president, has scheduled the YLD Fall Meeting in Athens for the Georgia vs. LSU game, and I'm sure she will call upon Chuck and Rich to organize the event.

I also want to thank all of the younger lawyers from around the state who took time out of their busy schedules to come to our business meetings. While several community service and committee issues are discussed, the primary focus of the meetings is for younger lawyers from around the state to get together in a social setting. The opportunity

to meet with other younger lawyers around the state is good not only from a marketing standpoint but is also helpful in coordinating projects in different communities around the state. I hope all of you who have participated will continue to do so in the future.

Special thanks also goes out to YLD Director Deidra Sanderson and the entire staff of the State Bar of Georgia who worked behind the scenes to make my presidency a success. All the lawyers in Georgia are very fortunate to have such a competent and organized

Bar association that makes service to the Bar and the community a real pleasure.

Special thanks also goes out to the wonderful slate of officers I worked with. President-Elect Laurel Landon, Secretary Jon Pope and Treasurer David Gruskin were always available with their time and ideas. I also want to thank the editor of our newsletter, Bryan Scott, who gave countless hours formatting and editing our newsletter.

A true reflection of the hard work

and commitment to expanding involvement in the younger lawyers was seen at our Spring Meeting. April 16-19, the YLD held their Spring Meeting during a three-day cruise to the Bahamas. Over 80 people participated and we had a record 23 first time attendees. Several of the first time attendees were from large Atlanta law firms. Hopefully, this exposure to the younger lawyers will encourage them to participate in the future. I had the opportunity to meet these new participants and am excited about their becoming involved with the YLD.

As I have mentioned in my past columns, the Georgia YLD is a great organization that every younger lawyer in the state of Georgia should participate in. Not only do you get a chance to network with younger lawyers from around the state, you also have an opportunity to give something back to your community. Being a lawyer isn't just about billing hours and winning cases. There is a responsibility that goes with this noble profession which requires giving of your time to help others.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as the president of this fine organization. It has been a rewarding and humbling experience, and one that I will never forget.

"I hope the large Atlanta law firms will continue to encourage their younger lawyers to participate in the YLD. In addition to being good for your career, Bar work is rewarding and a great way to improve the overall opinion of lawyers in our communities."



Great Day of Service Benefits Georgia Communities

This year's Great Day of Service was a tremendous success. On May 1, lawyers throughout Georgia participated in service projects in their local communities. Projects were scheduled throughout Georgia, giving members of the State Bar opportunities to participate in events in every corner of the state.

Service projects provide a positive image of lawyers in their communities. The volunteer opportunities also give younger lawyers a chance to meet each other and to socialize with other attorneys in their area. We would like to thank everyone who volunteered to make this year's program such a great success.

This year's Great Day of Service projects included:

Athens — Chuck Auslander — Habitat for Humanity House

Atlanta — Terri Gordon — Georgia Justice Project Cleaning and Landscaping Project

Augusta — Jamie Weston — Gracewood State Hospital Cookout

Bainbridge — Josh Bell — Volunteering at the Bainbridge Humane Society

Columbus — Paul Ivey — Charity Basketball Game (doctors vs. lawyers) to Benefit Our House

Gainesville — Kris Orr — Fundraising for the Conflict Resolution and Legal Studies Program at Brenau University

Macon — Rachel Caputo — Narareth Home Beautification Project

Savannah — Christine Bedingfield — Interior Painting and Exterior Landscaping at Senior Center

If you are interested in volunteering in other community service projects, please contact the co-chairs of the Community Service Committee, Lexi Liner at lexiliner@yahoo.com or Paul Greenspan at Paul.Greenspan@ey.com.



Above — Jay Doyle.



Left — Paul Greenspan and Michelle Thomas.



Above — Tammi Long holds a ladder for John Rogers.



Right — Amil Johnson and Melisa Ferris.



YLD members take a break during the Great Day of Service.

YLD Goes Cruisin'!



Michelle Thomas, the bartender and Phyllis Douglas.



Julie and Pete Daughtery.



Christy Durden, Crystal Chastain, Joel Hunter (back), James Bagwell, Jodi Emmert and another person.



Above — Suzanne Griggs, Cory P.

Left — Terri Gordon.



Above — Jay Doyle, Sara Doyle and Lew Landon.

Right — Kelly Holloway and YLD Director Deidra Sanderson.





(Front) Michelle Adams and Joe Mattern.
 (Back) Melanie Bailey, Elena Kaplan, Pete Haughton and Yoon Kim.



Above — Stephanie Westfield.



Left — Farrah Alcorn, Deidra Sanderson, Tammi Long, Michelle Thomas, Terri Gordon, Melinda Paine, Stephanie Westfield and Phyllis Douglas.

ner and Carrie Ann Turner.



Sonya Snyder, Jay Doyle, Sara Doyle, Lew Landon, YLD President-Elect Laurel Landon, Julie Daughtery and Kevin Snyder.



LRE Golf Tourney Moves to Chateau Elan

No, you're not seeing things. Although we've had several wonderful tournaments at our old location, the Law-Related Education Committee of the State Bar of Georgia has decided to take its annual golf tournament up into the Big Leagues! We are proud to announce that the 7th ANNUAL LAW RELATED EDUCATION GOLF TOURNAMENT will be held on THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2004 at CHATEAU ÉLAN'S WOODLANDS COURSE!

Please mark your calendar, tell your boss you won't be in that afternoon, and make plans to join us for a day of fierce (but friendly) golfing competition! We've also decided to take the prizes to the next level—at a minimum, we'll have four Hole In One contests, where the lucky golfer will receive either tickets to the MASTERS, the SUPER BOWL, the WORLD SERIES, or maybe even \$10,000 CASH. We'll also have a putting competition and other great raffle prizes. As always, prizes will also be awarded to the First Place Team, and we'll have



our "Beverage Patrol" taking care of all of our players.



Now that I REALLY have your attention...What is LRE? Law-Related Education (or "LRE") is a proven way of improving our nation, one person at a time. LRE is an interactive method of teaching young people and adults about the law and the fundamental principles on which it is based. LRE teaches people about their legal rights and responsibilities and encourages informed participation in our democratic form of government. National and state studies show that LRE deters delinquency and reduces disciplinary problems in young people because it fosters the development of decision-making, problem solving, and conflict management skills. For both young people and adults, LRE helps to develop a sense of empowerment through learning that people count and individuals can make a difference.

The Georgia Law-Related Education Consortium is an association of institutions, agencies, organizations, and individuals who believe LRE is an essential element in the development of people as productive, law-abiding citizens. Its mission is to promote the inclusion of LRE curriculum in schools


and in community-based programs all across our state. The Consortium adopts a "train the trainer" approach, conducting ten to twelve teacher/trainer workshops on an annual basis. The Consortium also prepares materials for all grade/age levels, including An Introduction to Law in Georgia (now in its fourth edition, available in both English and Spanish, with a Korean translation in the works as you read). The Consortium's materials have also been used by several YLD committees that work with at-risk children, including the Kids and Justice Committee, the Aspiring Youth Committee and the Law-Related Education Committee. All proceeds from the LRE Golf Tournament benefit the Consortium and its programs.

The Tournament is successful because of the generous sponsorship of several law firms, individuals and businesses who donate money, prizes, and refreshments, and because of the players who come out every year to support the tournament and the efforts of the Consortium. Don't have a Registration Form? Need more information? Want to sponsor a team and receive exclusive hole sponsorship signage at the tournament? No Problem! Call Melisa Ferris (404) 221-2222 or Shaun Daugherty at (404) 954-6965 for more information, or fill out and return the Sponsorship Form included in this issue of the YLD Newsletter.

Sign up EARLY to ensure that your team is registered! See you at Chateau Élan!

At the prestigious and challenging Chateau Elan "Woodlands" Course
www.chateauelanatlanta.com/Golf/Courses/



1:00 pm Shotgun Start Rain or Shine

\$125 per player/\$500 per team

Lunch and beverages provided
Sorry, no refunds.

Contests - new & exciting prizes!

Thursday
October 14, 2004

Entry Deadline:
Thursday,
September 30, 2004

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

SPONSORSHIP SECTION

If you would like to contribute merchandise bearing your company logo (balls, towels, bottles, etc.) for tee gift bags, or for more sponsorship information, please call Jay Sadd at 404/255-6677, Melisa Ferris at 404/221-2222, or Shaun Daugherty at 404/954-6965

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 _____
Please give address, etc. in "Player's Section"

Make SPONSORSHIP CHECKS payable to: **Lawyers Foundation of Georgia, Inc.** and mail with form to: YLD • c/o Ga. LRE Consortium • Univ. of GA • 1240 S. Lumpkin St. • Athens, GA 30602


PLAYER'S SECTION

Entry Deadline: September 30th 2004

OR

Please assign me to a team

Please enter us as a team



1 Player _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Handicap _____

e-mail _____

2 Player _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Handicap _____

e-mail _____

3 Player _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Handicap _____

e-mail _____

4 Player _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Handicap _____

e-mail _____

Make TOURNAMENT ENTRY checks payable to: **Young Lawyers Division**
and mail with entry form to the address shown above
Please indicate shirt size (S,M,L,XL etc) in box to right of your name

TIP Offers Way for Attorneys to Volunteer

For many, pro bono advocacy is a distant dream amid the thousands of billable hours, depositions and court appearances that consume a young lawyer's life. While many of us would love to find a way to give back to the community, often, limited time and numerous responsibilities make it seem difficult if not virtually impossible. If this is your life, the Truancy Intervention Project and YLD Truancy Committee are the perfect vehicles for you to become involved in pro bono work without sacrificing more time than you have to give.

TIP is a dropout prevention program, which serves children in the local school systems who are chronically absent from school and as a result, either become involved with the Juvenile Court or are referred for early intervention services at the school level. The objective of the program is to provide early, positive intervention to children who are at risk due to excessive absences from school. TIP pairs volunteers (attorney and non-attorney) with children and

their families to serve as mentors and advocates in an effort to decrease absenteeism rates and provide the families with the resources and services necessary to ensure good attendance and success in school.

After years of success in Fulton County, TIP began to export the program out to counties across the state. An adaptation of the TIP model can be found in Bibb, Cobb, Chatham, Muscogee, Hall, Walker, Douglas, Newton, Rockdale, Gwinnett and Walker counties. Counties such as Laurens, Cherokee, Houston, Paulding and Richmond are in the process of adapting the TIP model as well. The goal of TIP is to eventually have a program into every county in the state and have an attorney mentor assigned to every child in Georgia who has issues with chronic absenteeism.

In an effort to move forward towards this goal, we have enlisted the assistance of the State Bar of Georgia's Younger Lawyers Division. The YLD has established a Truancy Committee to help us recruit volunteers, make contact with judges and



(Left to right): Joseph Alonso, Jeff Dickerson, Cobb County Juvenile Court Judge Gregory Poole, TIP Staff Attorney Caren Cloud and State Bar YLD President Andrew Jones.

local attorneys in target counties and spread the word about TIP to communities throughout Georgia. We invite you to join the YLD's Truancy Committee and join us as we further our efforts to combat truancy around the state. We are in need of young

attorneys who want to truly make a difference in the life of a child. If you wish to become a TIP volunteer in your area or assist TIP in its efforts to export the TIP model to other counties across the state, please contact Caren Cloud at 404-224-4737.

University of Georgia Sweeps Moot Court Competition

The annual Georgia Intrastate Moot Court Competition, sponsored by the Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Georgia, took place on March 26 and 27 at the Walter F. George School of Law, Mercer University in Macon, Georgia. A team from the University of Georgia, comprised of Beth Morris, Brian Watt and Melissa Cook, swept the competition, winning the "Best Brief" and "Best Team" awards. University of Georgia team member Brian Watt also won "Best Oralist."

Two teams from Mercer, Georgia State, Emory University, and the University of Georgia meet every year at the competition, which consists of brief writing and then oral argument rounds. The teams advance to semi-final rounds and final rounds based on a combination of their brief scores and oral arguments scores. Competing in the semi-final round were teams from Mercer, University of Georgia and two teams from Emory. Emory and University of Georgia faced off in the final round.

Serving as the chief judge of the final round of oral arguments was the Judge John. J. Ellington, Court of Appeals of

Georgia. Also presiding over the final round were Charles J. Bethel of Minor, Bell & Neal, LLP; Christopher J. Kellner of Kilpatrick Stockton LLP; Laura W. Speed-Dalton of Chambers, Aholt & Rickard, LLP; and Allen F. Wallace, Law Clerk to the Hon. Robert L. Vining Jr., United States District Court for the Northern District of Georgia.

In addition to judging the oral argument rounds, over thirty (30) practitioners from around the state volunteer their time to grade briefs. The chair of the Georgia Intrastate Moot Court Competition Committee is Laura W. Speed-Dalton. The committee organizes and conducts the competition, including the preparation of the legal issues to be argued and the judging of the briefs and oral arguments.

The problem, written by Chris Kellner, concerned the issue of whether a state's statute prohibiting direct shipments of alcoholic beverages violated the Commerce Clause. Also at issue was whether an arbitration award was properly reviewable in court when only the liability issues had been resolved and whether the parties could agree by contract that a court would conduct a "de novo" review of the arbitration panel's legal conclusions.

Clifton Named Child Advocate of the Year



Wendi Clifton, J.D. was named Child Advocate of the Year by the Juvenile Law Committee of the State Bar of Georgia Young Lawyers Division at a May 12 ceremony at the Fulton County Juvenile Court in Atlanta. Clifton, an attorney and former interim director of Prevent Child Abuse Georgia, was praised for being a tireless legislative advocate for children's issues before the Georgia General Assembly.

This year she achieved what at times felt unachievable — Georgia has finally shed its label as the only state in the country without a felony child endangerment law. Clifton has been the unwavering, behind-the-scenes advocate for a child endangerment law in Georgia for the last four years.

Clifton kept the political focus on this important issue by keeping the relevant parties educated about the importance of the legislation and mobilizing the public to pressure legislators. Clifton's skill and devotion to the cause helped to bridge political party lines — cultivating the lieutenant governor's support for the issue and this year bringing the governor on board to back this important legislation for the protection of Georgia's children. At the bill signing for Senate Bill 467 Gov. Sonny Perdue referred to Clifton as one of Georgia's true child advocates.

Other award winners at the ceremony included the Adoptive & Foster Parent Association of Georgia, Joy Borra (volunteer), Mary Hermann, J.D. (child advocate attorney), Amy Howell, J.D. (juvenile defender), Harry D. Hudson Jr. (probation officer), Leslie Lipson, J.D. (education advocate), and Judge Velma Tilley of Bartow County Juvenile Court (judge).

The Juvenile Law Committee is a committee of the State Bar of Georgia Young Lawyers Division and is committed to promoting excellence and best practices in juvenile law.





from the
Editor

You Cannot Be Tomorrow What You Are Not Becoming Today

By Bryan D. Scott

When I was in law school, I spoke to a friend (who was not in law school) about accumulating wealth in order to give it away to others (the church, those in need, worthy causes, etc). He then laid this on me: “You cannot be tomorrow what you are not becoming today.” The reality of that truth struck me. The point was clear: I said I wanted to give my wealth away - then why don't I give it away now? Why wait? Yes, I wanted to help people, to meet needs, to be generous with my money . . . *but not yet.*

As attorneys, we make a substantial amount of money. Now I know there are exceptions, such as attorneys who commit their lives to the benevolent cause of defending those who are unable to pay for legal assistance. I commend such noble purposes. And, let me just say I realize we have debts — student loans, mortgage payments, car payments, students in private schools - life costs. But, if you have a law degree and practice law, especially in comparison to others around the world, odds are you earn more than the average person of your age and experience.

Have you fallen into the “when/then trap?” When I make a certain salary, then I will give away some of my

money. When I get my mortgage paid off, then I will begin contributing to the needs of those around me. When I have saved enough money, then I will be in a position to give. Why do I call it a “trap?” Because when you make that salary you always wanted, or get the mortgage paid off, or saved “enough” money, other worldly things quickly take their place — like increases in your standard of living, sending your children to college, or saving for retirement. Your debts and desires do not disappear — they just rear their ugly heads in other ways. And will our desire to consume ever be fully satisfied? If my life and heart struggles are any indication, I think not.

I am sure everyone wants to be benevolent with their money. Which brings me back to my point: Do you want to be a generous giver? Then you have to start becoming a giver now. Have a “loose grip” on your money. Be openhanded. Do not store your treasures on earth. Give without a grudging heart. “Though your riches increase, do not set your heart on them.” Ps. 62:10.

When is the best time to be a generous giver? Right now. Because you cannot be tomorrow what you are not becoming today.

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