

Young Lawyers Gather in Athens as Bulldogs Take on LSU

The Young Lawyers Division met in Athens for their 2004 Fall Meeting over the weekend of Oct. 1-3. Events began Friday afternoon with an optional tort litigation CLE program held at ICLE. The activities then moved to the Foundry Park Inn and Spa, where a business meeting was held, followed by a Welcome Reception and Dinner outdoors in the new Hoyt Pavilion. The Wild, Wild West Hospitality Suite was open to attendees all weekend and served as a central gathering point.

On Saturday morning, everyone made their way to the "best tailgate party ever," set up on the quad in front of the Law School, for the UGA vs. LSU football game. The tailgate included a large tent, band, full bar (with two servers), food galore, and a big-screen television for those who were not able to secure tickets for one of the biggest games of the season. The remainder of the weekend was free for exploring Athens and celebrating the Georgia Bulldogs' victory over the LSU Tigers! 🏈



Above: Georgia Law School Associate Dean Paul Kurtz, Greg Thomas and Laura Linville at the UGA vs. LSU YLD tailgate on Oct. 2.



Left: Jackie Volk and Cindy Spindler



Far Left: Charlene Swartz, Walker Stroud McNiff, YLD President-elect Damon Elmore and Katie Lahnstein enjoy the tailgate.

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from the President

YLD President Gives Thanks This Holiday

by Laurel Payne Landon

As we approach the 2004 holiday season, I hope you will take a moment with me to give thanks for all the good things we, as young lawyers, have to be thankful for.

I am thankful for those who have come before us. The founding fathers, great legal minds of our country, and those who in our own life have guided us in our profession.

I am thankful for those who work with us on a daily basis in a courteous, professional manner. Those lawyers we report to and those who report to us, our paralegals, assistants, and other staff members who work hard to help us fulfill our responsibilities.

I am thankful for other lawyers that we work with in our practices. Judges, co-counsel and opposing

counsel whose professionalism makes it possible, and sometimes even enjoyable, to practice law.

I am thankful for clients who trust us with their most sensitive issues and pressing problems.

I am thankful for past and present Bar leaders who have spent many hours representing our profession and handling issues that arise.

I am thankful for the YLD Executive Director, the Officers, Directors, Committee Chairs and Executive Council members who work hard to make the YLD a successful organization.

I am thankful that I live in a country where the rule of law governs and where we have rights guaranteed to us as citizens.

Happy Holidays! 🎁

Aspiring Youth Committee Ends Fall Program

Parting gifts and surprises, cupcakes, cookies, pizza and patriotic decorations marked the end of the five-week Aspiring Youth Fall Program on Oct. 27 at Crawford Long Middle School. Eighteen 12-year old students participated in the program this fall with volunteers through the Young Lawyers Division's Aspiring Youth Committee. Volunteers and students took part in the end-of-program celebration, including law student and attorney volunteers, as well as several staff members and parents.

And why not celebrate? The program, a standing committee of the YLD, continues to evolve while remaining focused on its mission: to prepare middle school students, who face challenge and adversity, for success in school and life by stressing the importance of hard work and education through a program of structured recreation, tutoring and mentorship.

This year, Aspiring Youth received tremendous support from the school itself. Crawford Long provided a dedicated Aspiring Youth liaison and arranged for transportation for the students to get home after the program. Most importantly, Crawford Long's faculty and staff were directly involved in the day-to-day work of the program each Monday and Wednesday that it met, a remarkable feat. Principal Dr. Elizabeth Harris thanks the volun-

teers: "First, let me extend my deep appreciation and thanks to each of you for your work and the times you shared with the students of Long Middle School. The impact of your efforts extends beyond what you may realize. I look forward to our continued associations." The spring session is now being planned and will begin next semester.

Congratulations on an outstanding job! "I have had the time of my life working with such an awesome group of people...and you did it all for the love of the kids! I thank you all for partnering to make this a great program," says Antavious Weems, Aspiring Youth committee chair.

Special thanks to Sandra Wolfe and Amber Walden, who served as principal organizers and worked as dedicated volunteers. Special recognition also goes to Karen Miniex and Dawn Dwyer, who served as celebration chairpersons. Most importantly, special thanks to all of the young lawyers who supported the program and managed to come out and help, whenever they could, including students from Emory's Black Law Student Association.

Come out and help these students "raise their aspirations and reach their dreams." Get involved with Aspiring Youth. Contact YLD Executive Director Deidra Sanderson at deidra@gabar.org, for more information. 🎁



Top: Emory law student Caeden Drayton and YLD member Sandra Wolfe speak to students during the Aspiring Youth End of Fall Program celebration.

Bottom: YLD volunteers Karen Miniex and Heather Miller pass out candy and giveaways to a student.





Left: Melisa Ferris, David Gruskin, Audra Esrey, YLD President-elect Damon Elmore, Sherry Neal and Cindy Spindler spend time together at dinner on Aug. 21 during the Summer Meeting.

Below Left: YLD Immediate Past President Andrew W. Jones, Chuck Auslander and Josh Bell mingle during the Summer Meeting at Barnsley Gardens.

Below Right: Kevin Snyder, Lisa McCleary, Rich Connelly, Shaun Daugherty and Curtis Romig enjoy a game of bocce ball.

Bottom: A tour of the ruins of Barnsley Gardens was given on Saturday as part of the meeting activities.



YLD Begins Bar Year with Barnsley Garden Get-Away

The Young Lawyers Division started off the 2004-2005 Bar year with their Summer Meeting held Aug. 20 and 21 at Barnsley Gardens Resort in Adairsville, Ga.

The meeting began on Friday afternoon with a roundtable for committee chairs, followed by a welcome reception and southern barbecue. For the first time, a CLE program was offered in conjunction with a YLD meeting. Attendees earned two CLE credit hours. The business meeting followed the CLE program on Saturday morning, leaving the afternoon free for golf, visits to the spa, horseback riding, fishing, or just relaxing by the pool.

A guided tour of the ruins and a group dinner in the chapel wrapped up the official festivities on Saturday night. 🍷



YLD Tees off for Charity at Seventh Annual LRE Golf Tournament

by Shaun Daugherty, Esq.
LRE Committee Co-Chair

Those who attended in the past said that it couldn't be done. The Law Related Education Golf Tournament could not possibly be better than it has been in the past. Did the committee shrug their shoulders and say, "Well, maybe you're right"? No! They moved the Tournament to Château Élan's Woodlands Course and went from there.

The Seventh Annual LRE Golf Tournament was held Oct. 14 at the beautiful Woodlands Course at Château Élan. Organized by the LRE Committee, the tournament helped raise money to support the efforts of

the Law Related Education Consortium. This organization is primarily a grant funded non-profit organization and has little, if any, carryover from year to year. In a recovering economy, when so many other worthy charities are suffering from budget shortfalls, we are incredibly grateful and truly awed by the generosity and support we received this year from all of our sponsors, players and the Georgia legal community at large. We offer everyone involved our most sincere and heartfelt thanks for making this year's golf tournament a success!

As many of you have read in the past, 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 10 to

12 teacher/trainer workshops on an annual basis.

The Consortium also prepares materials for all grade and age levels, including *An Introduction to Law in Georgia*, which is now in its third edition and is presently being translated into Spanish to teach Latino adults their rights and responsibilities under Georgia law.

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 LRE Committee.

This tournament is successful because of the generous sponsorship of several law firms, individuals and businesses who donate money, prizes, and refreshments to the cause. However, without the players who come out every year to support the tournament and the efforts of the Consortium, this would not be as successful or as fun as it always turns out to be.

The LRE Committee extends its heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you! See you next year! 🏆



Above: Cory Phillips of Forge Consulting takes a break.

Top Left: Gene Mathews and Pete Daugherty share a laugh on their way to a -15 gross score (-25 net) and the LRE golf tournament victory.

Bottom Left: LRE Committee and Tournament Co-chair Melisa Ferris warms up in her golf cart during the Oct. 14 LRE Golf Tournament.

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Brad Gardner tees off as Jim Standard and Blair Enfield look on at the Seventh Annual Law Related Education Golf Tournament, which was held on Oct. 14 at the Woodlands Golf Course at Château Élan in Braselton, Ga.

TIP's Holiday Adoption Program

As the holiday season approaches, many of us in the legal community are looking for ways to help those in need, especially children. For those wonderful pro bono minded attorneys, the Truancy Intervention Project has a wonderful way to help: adopt a child and his or her family for the holidays!

Each year for the past 13 years, local attorneys have brightened the holiday season for hundreds of children by donating gifts to the Truancy Intervention Project for their annual Holiday Adoption Program. Each child in the project and their siblings are given a wish list to fill out and that wish list is then passed on to attorneys and legal staff throughout the Atlanta area, who donate clothes, toys and educational games to the children in need.

In addition to the Holiday Adoption Program, TIP also hosts an annual holiday party for the children and their families at various locations around the city. All who attend are served a wonderful lunch by local businesses and the children receive donated holiday stockings stuffed with goodies such as school supplies, games, toys, gloves, candy, etc. Volunteers often attend the party to assist with the food and gifts or simply to enjoy the children!

In the spirit of the holiday season, we invite you to participate in our Holiday Adoption Program, whether thru the adoption of a child, volunteering at the holiday party or in some other capacity. If you are interested in learning more about the Truancy Intervention Project's Holiday Adoption program, please contact Tonya Malone at 404-224-4740.

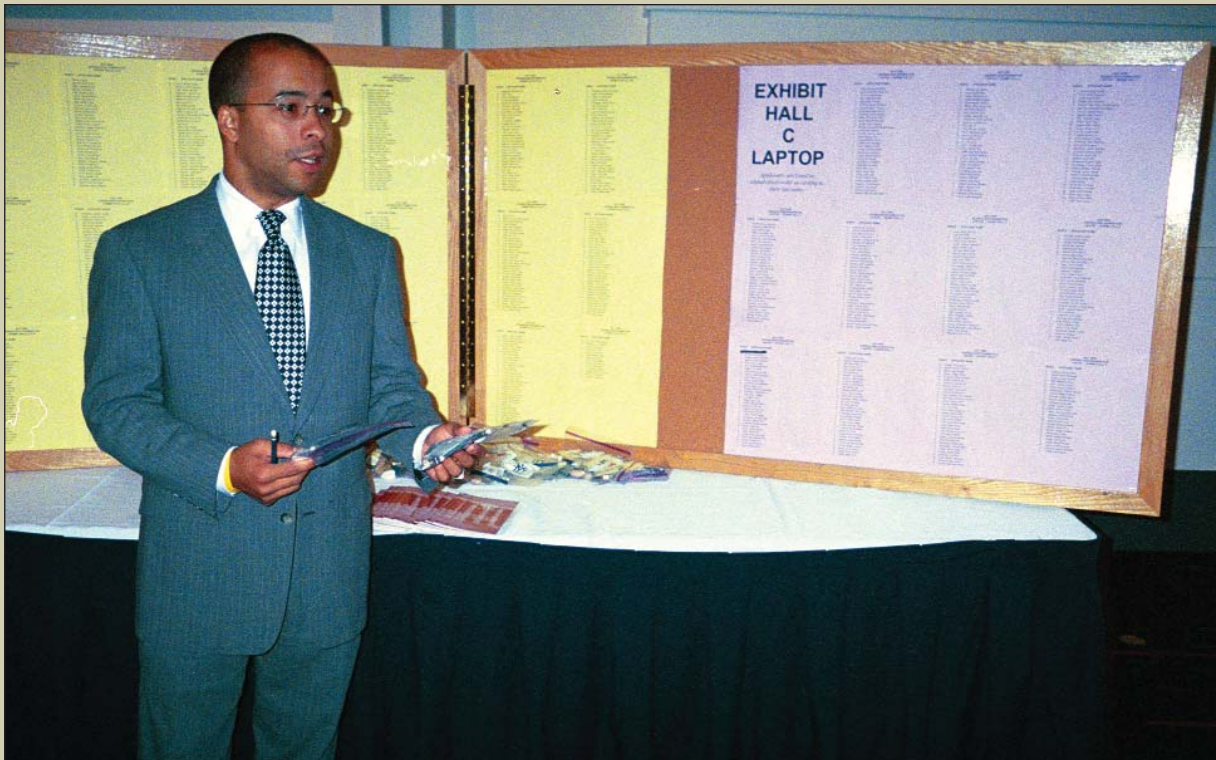
Women in the Profession Committee Update

The Women in the Profession Committee sponsored a lunch and learn program on Oct. 26, titled "Never Kissed a Frog, Never Had To: A Wealth-Building Guide For Every Stage of Life." The program, presented by the MassMutual Financial Group, addressed financial strategies for meeting your retirement goals.

In December, the committee will sponsor the Grandparent/Relative Caregiver Adoption Project by adopting a family in need through the Atlanta Legal Aid Society. The families in the program are in situations where a grandparent is in the process of adopting his or her grandchildren because the parents have died, are incarcerated, have abandoned their children, or otherwise cannot care for their children. The families have special needs because the grandparent is often already retired and living on a fixed income or disabled and cannot work. The children and the grandparent give the Atlanta Legal Aid Society a wish list of things they would like Santa Claus to bring them on Christmas. The committee tries to fill this wish list by collecting contributions from members as well as give the family some grocery store gift certificates. The donations are collected at a party on Dec. 14, which also gives members the opportunity to socialize and network with one another.

If you are interested in purchasing a gift for a family member, making a monetary donation, or adopting a family for the holidays, please contact Sherry Neal with the Atlanta Legal Aid Society at (404) 524-5811 or svneal@atlantalegalaid.org.





YLD distributes 'Bar Survival Kits' to applicants

The YLD serves three purposes: (1) service to the profession; (2) service to the public; and (3) service to the Bar.

At the July testing center, YLD President-elect Damon Elmore (pictured), and YLD Executive Director Deidra F. Sanderson, distributed hundreds of "Bar survival kits" to people taking the Bar examination in Atlanta.

The kits included a pencil, pencil sharpener, earplugs, Tylenol, Alka-Seltzer and a cough drop. Distribution of the Bar survival kits is an ongoing project of the Young Lawyers Division. ✎

Community Service Committee Update

- Each December, the Community Service Committee partners with the Fulton County Department of Family and Child Services to sort and wrap holiday presents for foster children. This year's date has not yet been announced, but it will be a Saturday morning in December. Please contact project chair Michelle Adams (michelle.adams@kutakrock.com) if you are interested in participating.
- The committee's annual clothing and cell phone drive will once again take place in conjunction with the State Bar of Georgia's Midyear Meeting at the Omni Hotel at CNN Center, Jan. 12-15. Volunteers are needed to act as collection sites for the items. We also need volunteers to help sort items and prepare them for delivery to the various charities on Jan. 15. Please contact project chair Katrina Quicker (kquicker@kilpatrickstockton.com)
- The committee is planning to organize a volunteer day one Saturday in February at the Atlanta Community Food Bank. Interested in participating or acting as the project chair? Please contact Lexi Liner (lexiliner@yahoo.com).
- The Community Service Committee meets the third Thursday of each month at 12:30 pm at the offices of Hunton & Williams in Atlanta. Please contact committee chairs Paul Greenspan (paul.greenspan@ey.com) or Lexi Liner (lexiliner@yahoo.com) if you are interested in joining us!

Elder Law Committee Update

The Elder Law Committee has spent the last several months working on a variety of projects. Because of the major changes in the guardianship code and Medicaid, we plan to update the Senior Citizens Handbook, a valuable resource both for practitioners and the community. The handbook covers the major areas of concern to the elderly and their family members, as well as providing contact information for obtaining additional information.

In addition, based on the success of the Advanced Directives Day in

2004, WSB-TV has approached the section about working together to make the event even larger in 2005. The scope of the project has also expanded, in an attempt to provide locations in communities outside of metro Atlanta. The possibility of expanding to two of these days each year, in October as well as the current May date, is also under consideration.

There will also be a committee-sponsored Elder Law CLE, organized through ICLE. Daniel Munster and Melanie McNeil will be chairing this seminar, which will take place in February.

Litigation Committee Update

The YLD Litigation Committee has gotten off to a rousing start this fall. The committee boasts over 100 members, and has focused on three primary year-long goals: Service to the Profession, Service to the Community, and Service to Ourselves.

With regard to service to the profession, the committee is planning a spring CLE geared to younger lawyers in the metro Atlanta area. The committee is also planning two or more metro Atlanta lunch-and-learn CLEs, the first of which will focus on working with accounting experts and understanding accounting documents. We are also planning three CLE/social events to take place in Savannah, Macon and Augusta. Subcommittees have been formed and are planning each of these events.

With regard to service to the community, the committee has committed to sending volunteers to a holiday gift wrapping program later this fall. In addition, the committee has committed to sending a team to help with the springtime Great Day of Service. Moreover, many committee members

have volunteered to assist in various roles with the High School Mock Trial program.

Finally, service to ourselves. What we meant by this moniker, was to describe the programs and events that were really for our own self-interests. We have already had our first social at Mid-City Cuisine in Midtown Atlanta, and are planning future social events in conjunction with other YLD committees. The purpose of these socials will be to establish networks for future referrals as well as to have fun. In addition, the committee is creating a directory to further the networking aim of its members. It will give a detailed description of each committee member and their legal practice areas. Hopefully a guide of this sort will grow the referral networks we are already establishing between members of the committee.

The Litigation Committee meets every fourth Wednesday of the month, although we have modified our schedule for the holidays. Our next lunch meeting will take place at King & Spalding on Nov. 17.

17th Annual Legislative Affairs Breakfast

Friday, Jan. 14, 2005, 7:30 a.m.
Floyd Room, Sloppy Floyd Building, Atlanta

Expected speakers include Georgia appellate judges who will address new legislation of interest to younger lawyers – indigent defense and ethics reform.

\$25 per person/\$150 per table of 8

To purchase tickets or a table, please

send your name, contact information and names of attendees, along with a check, to:

*Deidra Sanderson, YLD Director
State Bar of Georgia
104 Marietta Street, Suite 100
Atlanta, GA 30303*

For more information, please contact Deidra Sanderson (404) 527-8778, Jon Stewart (404) 614-7400, or John Rogers (404) 522-8220.

YLD Creates Family Law Committee

In response to lobbying by younger lawyers practicing in the area of family law, the YLD Executive Committee recently voted to create a family law committee.

“Creating this new arm of the YLD is an exciting opportunity for younger family lawyers” said Jonathan Tuggle, committee chair. “Throughout the state, there is a large number of younger lawyers practicing in the area of family law, and until now there has been no network connecting all of them.”

The committee is still in the formative stage, but its initial objectives are to promote interest in family law, to provide younger family lawyers with an educational and networking resource within which to develop their leadership skills, and perhaps most importantly, to organize charitable and civic activities.

“Because the area of family law lends itself to helping people, I believe the charitable opportunities for the committee are limitless,” Tuggle said.

Participation and involvement in the formation of the committee are welcomed. “Since we are effectively starting from scratch, the input of those interested will certainly help get the new committee off the ground.”

Organizational meetings will be held between now and when the committee registration forms go out in June 2005. “Hopefully, by that time we will have a strong and viable committee to present to the YLD.”

For those interested in participating in the family law committee contact Jonathan Tuggle at jtuggle@wmbnclaw.com or 770.951.2700.



Upcoming Meetings

Midyear Meeting

Jan. 13-15

Omni Hotel at CNN Center

Spring Meeting

March 18-20

Jekyll Island Club Hotel

Annual Meeting

June 9-12

Westin Savannah Harbor Resort

Go Dawgs! 2004 YLD Fall Meeting

Thank you to our sponsors!

- **Forge Consulting**
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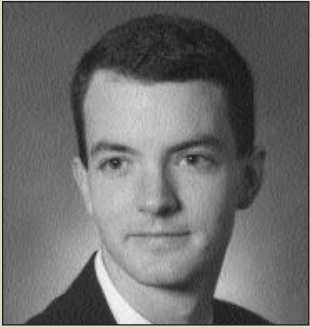


Left: Bill and Jennifer Pinto

Below Left: Andrew Bowen, Andrew Rothschild and YLD Immediate Past President Andrew W. Jones at the Welcome Reception on Oct 1 at the Foundry Inn's Hoyt Pavilion in Athens.

Below Right: Dean Rebecca H. White, UGA School of Law, Doug Kertscher and Katie Lahnstein socialize during the tailgate party.





from the
Editor

What People Will Never Forget

By Bryan D. Scott

We deal with people every day. Whether they are clients, partners, associates, court personnel, witnesses, adversarial parties or the like, we are in a people-oriented business. Those people make opinions of us based on their dealings with us on a day-to-day basis. What drives their final determination of what type of attorney we are?

In that regard, here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full attention: *People may forget what you say, people may forget what you do, but people will never forget how you made them feel.*

What I mean is this – after all is said and done, people will carry with themselves the emotions that they felt as a result of your dealings with them, long after your relationship with them has ended (either temporarily or permanently). What will those feelings and emotions toward you be? Will they be emotions of impatience, anxiety, anger, distrust or frustration? Or feelings of patience, kindness, loyalty, appreciation, and concern for them and their problem?

I have found that whatever lack of experience or legal knowledge I have I can make up for in the way I treat my client. I have found that a kind word can open a door that would not have been opened otherwise. I have found that moment by moment I am building a foundation upon which others will assess me, and that this foundation

needs to be built with words and deeds that will ensure that they feel confident and positive in me as a person and attorney.

Do we need to change our clients' feelings toward us? Our clients are smart. They can sense whether we are concerned for them. They can sense whether we have put our best effort forward. They can sense whether we are brushing their case off. Those sorts of things are not easily hidden. We should exercise the patience, kindness and concern necessary to ensure that our clients feel like they were listened to, cared about and appreciated. That, not our incredible explanation of the Rule against Perpetuities, is what they will remember when they leave.

Have you ever been unsuccessful with the outcome of a case or matter, but your clients were still pleased with you? I am sure many of you have. How can that be? Well, if you laid a foundation of concern for them and their case, if you took time to treat them with value and worth, and if you put your best effort forward, even when it was difficult to do, they leave feeling that though the outcome did not fall their way, they had someone who was truly committed to their cause, and, more importantly, to them.

Just remember: *People may forget what you say, people may forget what you do, but people will never forget how you made them feel.* 🙏

Bryan D. Scott, Editor
Deidra F. Sanderson, Associate Editor
The YLD Review
104 Marietta Street, NW
Suite 100
Atlanta, GA 30303

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