SAVANNAH BAR ASSOCIATION

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Savannah Bar Association's End-of-Year Meeting

The Savannah Bar Association's end-of-year meeting was held on June 18, 2015, at the Savannah Golf Club. The food was delicious, and the Savannah Golf Club's bartenders were quite accommodating.

Catherine Bowman (The Bowman Law Office) was thanked for her advancement of the SBA during her tenure as President and was recognized for her wisdom, good humor, and enthusiasm.

The formal portion of the end-of-year meeting concluded with the following individuals being sworn in as SBA officers for 2015-2016:

President: Colin A. McRae (HunterMaclean)

President-Elect: Mathew M. McCoy (McCorkle & Johnson)

Treasurer: Robert C. Hughes, III (Brannen, Searcy & Smith)

Secretary – Margaret "Maggie" W.S. Puccini (Bouhan Falligant)

GLSP Thanks Pro Bono Attorneys

Georgia Legal Services Program thanks all the attorneys who accepted Pro Bono cases during July and August 2015. If you would like to join this elite group of attorneys who are furthering GLSP's mission to provide quality representation to eligible clients, please contact GLSP Pro Bono Coordinator Ruth Ann Dutton at (912) 651-2283, ext. 2184 orrdutton@glsp.org.

> *Jerold L. Murray *Angelyn Tinsman Daniel O'Connor Stanley Harris, Jr. Adam Walters Dorothy Courington Kran R. Riddle *Francesca Rehal *W. Lamar Fields

*Denotes an attorney who accepted multiple cases

Rachel Young Fields Recognized as Georgia "On the Rise" Attorney

HunterMaclean partner Rachel Young Fields was recently recognized as an "On the

Rise" Attorney by the *Fulton County Daily Report*. An honor received by only 40 attorneys statewide under the age of 40, this award highlights legal professionals who have excelled on both professional and philanthropic platforms.

"Rachel is an outstanding litigator, and her dedication extends into her work with the community," said Frank Macgill, HunterMaclean's managing partner. "We are very proud of Rachel's achievements."



Rachel joined HunterMaclean in 2007 and primarily practices in the areas of business litigation and intellectual property. In addition to handling complex commercial litigation, her expertise is counseling businesses on how to protect and manage their intellectual property, including the process of filing applications for trademarks and copyrights.

Fields is actively involved in the community and currently serves as vice president of the board of directors for the Coastal Empire Habitat for Humanity. She also serves on the board of directors of the State Bar Young Lawyers Division.

Rachel has been recognized by *Business in Savannah* and *Savannah Magazine* as a "Generation NEXT" business leader under the age of 40. She has received the distinguished AV rating by Martindale-Hubbell, which is the highest level of professional excellence for attorneys.

Savannah Trial Lawyers Award Scholarship to Local Student



The Savannah Trial Lawyers Association recently named Beach High School graduating senior Victoria Palmer the 2015 winner of their annual scholarship. The scholarship is awarded to the most deserving high school senior based on academic excellence, high moral character, and positive involvement in the community. She received a \$1,000 toward her college education.

STLA President Brad Stevens presents the 2015 STLA scholarship to Victoria Palmer.

A Note from Past-President Catherine Bowman

It was a pleasure serving as 2014-2015 Savannah Bar Association president. We have a wonderful collegial group. I would like to thank many of the individuals who made my job easier.

As many of you know, we now have an administrator that helps us with the website, Kris Taylor. Kris sends out our e-mails, troubleshoots, and she is our technical guru, which means she frequently holds the officers' hands, and sometimes talks us off the ledge. I hope you were able to meet her at our end-of-year cocktail party.

I also want to thank the attorneys that have helped us do our business this year – most of whom are behind the scenes and you never see, but who did a lot of the day to day business that isn't much discussed. Our committee chairs this year were:

Langston Bass, Boat Ride Steve Beauvais, Grievance Craig Call and Richard Sanders, Hot Topics Glen Darbyshire and Wendy Williamson, Bench and Bar Wade Herring, Resolutions Colby Longley, Younger Lawyers Division Tawny Mack, The Citation Colin McCrae, Nominations Matt Mills, Scholarship Shari Miltiades, Pro Bono Committee Maggie Puccini, History and Archive Committee Chris Steinmetz, Lawyers in Crisis, our new committee.

Many of these committees had their own meetings attended by committee members, so if you were on one of the committees, you know who you are, and I thank you as well!

Our executive committee members that were the font of all wisdom were:

Christy Barker Leesa Bohler Jamie Clark Blake Greco Steve Greenberg Steve Harris, our sign- in czar Robert Hughes-next year's treasurer Paul Johnson Colby Longley Maria Waters Wendy Williamson-our esteemed past-president

(continued on following page)

A Note from Past-President Catherine Bowman Cont'd

I also want to thank the officers with whom I have worked for years. Maggie Puccini, as secretary, was a joy with whom to work. Maggie made doing work fun! Mat McCoy was great for his practical Midwestern wisdom, an opinion given with a twinkle in his eye, and wit in the giving. And Colin McCrae will be a magnificent president for you all. Colin is organized, can be counted on to e-mail with humor, and is that perfect blend of diplomacy and determination. He ensured that last year was a wonderful year of speakers and parties, and I look forward to the Bar under his leadership next year.

And lastly – thank you to the membership - In my four years of being an officer, I never asked anything of one of our members, whether it was to do an invocation or to head a committee, that I recall being turned down. I can't say that for a single other organization for which I have volunteered. We are a giving, doing crowd.

Catherine Bowman

YLD Update

The Savannah YLD continued its summer social calendar in July with its Alumni Event held at Hang Fire on July 23rd. The alumni event served as an opportunity for younger and older lawyers to socialize and share stories about their practice. The event was well attended, and fun was had by all.

On July 22nd, the Savannah YLD donated to the Guardian Ad Litem Program

\$6,600.00, which represents funds raised during the Tenth Annual Guardian Savannah Ad Litem Charity Golf Tournament. Superior Court Judges Benjamin Karpf, Louisa Abbott, and Penny Haas Freesemann presided over the check presentation ceremony, which was held in Judge Freesemann's courtroom in the Chatham County Courthouse.



The YLD Executive Board will host its kick-off event at 5:30pm, September 24th at Congress Street Social Club. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend.



Savannah Law Review to host colloquium, The Walking Dead, September 18--19, 2015, at Savannah Law School.

In September 2015, *Savannah Law Review* will present *The Walking Dead*, a colloquium that will survey academic topics regarding how death and fear of death affect the law of the living. What better situs for this topic than Savannah, Georgia – a city both haunted and charmed by the dead, where spectral imprint often trumps that of the living.

The Walking Dead Colloquium will provide a forum to discuss the "shadowy" legal interpolation of the dead on the living and explore both its positive and negative ramifications in an effort to strike a pluralistic balance between the law of past, present, and future. Thematic examples may include legal recognition of the dead's wishes affecting real property and intellectual property; regulation of pandemics from yellow fever to Ebola; constitutional analysis relying upon the views of the dead – the Framers – versus a "living" Constitution; and other myriad examples of the dead influencing law: the death penalty; desecration laws; the Right-to-Die Movement; posthumous evidentiary privileges; wrongful death and rights of survivorship; regulation of corpses, organ donation, and burials; stigma harms to real property inhabited by ghosts; and post-apocalyptic justice.

Professor Ray Madoff (Boston College Law School) will present the keynote address for *The Walking Dead* and publish a related article in the *Savannah Law Review*. Professor Madoff's thoughtful scholarship on the "Law of the Dead" includes her provocative publication, *Immortality and the Law: The Rising Power of the American Dead* (Yale University Press), which examines how American law empowers the dead to exert direct and often perpetual costs on the living. *The Walking Dead* will also feature a host of national scholars and local practitioners, including: Professors Michael Allen (Stetson University College of Law), Roberta Harding (University of Kentucky College of Law), Adam Lamparello (Indiana Tech Law School), Lara Schwartz (American University Washington College of Law), and Asmara Tekle (Thurgood Marshall School of Law).

Doors open Friday, September 18, at 5:30 p.m., and the event will begin at 6:00 p.m., with opening remarks from the Law School's faculty and the Journal's formidable staff, followed by Professor Ray Madoff's Keynote Address. A welcoming reception will be held in the newly restored Candler Hospital Building at 8:00 p.m. Activities for Saturday, September 19 will begin at 10:00 a.m. and include a variety of panel presentations and speakers.

Georgia Continuing Legal Education Credit will be available. *Savannah Law Review* is a studentrun organization, and is seeking sponsorship for the event. For more information on sponsorship or to register to attend *The Walking Dead*, please click here or visit: www.savannahlawschool.org/press-release/savannah-law-school-hosts-the-walking-deadprogram/ or contact Elizabeth Rackley DeSalvo, Editor-in-Chief, *Savannah Law Review*, ejdesalvo@savannahlawschool.org, <u>(602) 614-2559</u>.

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Announcement from Mahoney, Cole, Clark & Gore, P.C.

The firms of Mahoney & Mahoney, P.C. and Cole, Clark & Gore, P.C. are pleased to announce the merger of the two firms and the formation of Mahoney, Cole, Clark & Gore, P.C. The firm is a general practice firm providing representation in bankruptcy, business law, construction law, corporations, criminal defense, litigation in all courts, maritime law, homeowner's associations, personal injury, social security disabilty/SSI, residential and commercial real estate closings, and wills, estates and probate. The firm has attorneys licensed in both Georgia and South Carolina. Mahoney, Cole, Clark & Gore, P.C., is located at 337 Commercial Drive, Suite 500, Savannah, Georgia, and can be reached at (912) 354-2653.

17th Annual Bankruptcy Seminar for Secretaries and Paralegals

Coastal Bankruptcy Law Institute (CBLI) announces its 17th Annual Bankruptcy Seminar for Secretaries and Paralegals scheduled for Friday, September 25, 2015. The seminar is being held at The Chatham Club in Savannah, Georgia, again this year. (Registration information can be found at bankruptcylawresearch.org.) CBLI is an accredited sponsor with the State Bar of Georgia, and the paralegal seminar is approved by the Association of Bankruptcy Judicial Assistants (ABJA) for 4 units. We invite interested parties to register and attend the CBLI annual bankruptcy seminar in Savannah. ALSO - SAVE THE DATE: CBLI has secured April 22, 2016, for its annual Bankruptcy Law and Trends, Southern District of Georgia, seminar for bankruptcy International Trade Convention attorneys the Savannah & Center. at

Harry Dixon, III Achieves Anti-Money Laundering Specialist Certification

Harry Dixon, III (Donnie Dixon Attorney at Law, LLC) is pleased to announce that he has obtained certification ACAMS as an anti-money laundering specialist. ACAMS is the largest international membership organization dedicated to enhancing the knowledge, skills and expertise of AML/CTF and financial crime detection and prevention professionals. The CAMS examination rigorously tests for aptitude and expertise in anti-money laundering detection, prevention, and enforcement, and CAMS is considered the international gold standard in anti-money laundering certifications.

Bill Broker Re-elected to the Board of Trustees of the Sapelo Foundation

Bill Broker was re-elected to the Board of Trustees of the Sapelo Foundation at its recent meeting in Stansstad, Switzerland. The Foundation supports environmental activism, progressive social change and civic engagement within marginalized communities in Georgia.

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Savannah Law School Welcomes its Fourth Entering Class

Savannah Law School is pleased to welcome its fourth entering class. With applications to law school shrinking nationally, Savannah Law School bucked the trend again this year with an entering class that grew by 43%. In addition, Savannah Law School's academic indicators rose with a high LSAT score of 170 and high GPA of 3.94.

This new class comprises of 53% females and 47% males. There is a 32% minority representation, 8% military veterans, and a median age of 25. These numbers make the 2015 entering class Savannah Law School's most diverse; thus reinforcing the school's mission of providing the opportunity for legal education to both traditional and non-traditional students who show promise of making positive contributions to the profession, legal system or society.

Best Lawyers in America Recognizes Malcome Mackenzie, III

Weiner Shearouse Weitz and Greenberg and Shawe, LLP's partner **Malcolm Mackenzie**, **III** has been selected by his peers for inclusion in the 2016 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*[®]. He is being recognized for excellence in the field of Personal Injury litigation – Defendants.

L. Rachel Wilson Named Director of Career Development at Savannah Law School

L. Rachel Wilson Named Director of Career Development at Savannah Law School.

Savannah Law School has recently named L. Rachel Wilson Director of Career Development. In addition, Rachel will continue teaching Wills, Estates, and Trusts at Savannah Law School. Rachel will be working with students and conducting seminars and trainings on career development skills, resume and cover letter writing, and interview and networking skills. She will be coordinating on-campus interviews, mock interviews, mentoring programs, and career and internship events. She hopes to see increased involvement in Savannah Law School from the local legal community and plans to reach out to many Savannah attorneys about the internship program and participating in panels and mock interviews. Attorneys interested in getting involved can reach Rachel at 912-525-3914 or at rwilson@savannahlawschool.org.

Rachel is a member of the Savannah Bar Association and just recently ended her term on the board of directors of the Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Georgia, where she received an award for Outstanding Service To The Profession for her work on the Affiliate Outreach Program. In June, she graduated from the Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Georgia's Leadership Academy. Rachel also serves as President of the Telfair's William Jay Society for young professionals and continues to volunteer with the Junior League of Savannah.

Volunteers Needed – 2015 Street Law

The US Attorney's Office of the Southern District of Georgia is proud to partner with the Savannah Law School to present the 1st Street Law Program at Savannah High School. Attorneys and current law students will have the opportunity to teach the 10th-12th grade students an interactive and engaging curriculum that specifically targets practical legal issues that are relevant to them as young people living in the United States. Volunteers will receive the curriculum and all of the supplements needed in order to teach each lesson. This semester's Street Law program will teach at Savannah High School on Fridays from 1:30 p.m. to 3:10 beginning on September 4th and ending on November 20th. Volunteers can sign up for one or more classes here: http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f4da5ae2ba2ff2-2015 or you can email lknight@savannahlawschool.org.

Bouhan Falligant Hires Elizabeth Verner as New Attorney

Bouhan Falligant announced that it is expanding its practice, hiring Elizabeth Verner as a new associate attorney.

Verner graduated from St. Andrew's School, in Savannah, before attending the University of Wisconsin, where she received a Bachelor of Arts degree in history. She earned her law degree from the University of Georgia School of Law in 2015.

At UGA, Verner served as notes editor for the *Georgia Journal of International and Comparative Law*, where she published two notes related to international laws protecting children during armed conflicts, and worked in the University of Georgia School of Law Family Violence Clinic, which assists low income clients in obtaining protective orders against domestic abusers.

Her other accolades include the CALI Excellence for the Future Award in Legal Research and Writing, and the Real Property Law Section Award given to promising students in the field of real estate law.

Verner will be splitting her time at Bouhan Falligant between commercial real estate and commercial litigation.

Catholic Lawyers Guild to Observe Papal Visit

The Catholic Lawyers Guild will host a presentation on the recent Papal Encyclical, *Laudato Si: On Care for Our Common Home*, Thursday, September 24 at noon. The presenter will be local attorney and Guild member Clete Bergen. The program will take place at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 2170 E. Victory Drive. The document, known as the "environmental encyclical", addresses environmental degradation, consumerism, irresponsible development and climate change. The meeting will begin with lunch, followed by the presentation. The meeting will end at 1:00 p.m. All attorneys are welcome to attend.

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Georgia Justice Project to Present Program

The Georgia Justice Project, in partnership with the Governor's Office of Transition, Support & Recovery, will present "Understanding Your Criminal History." The program is designed for service providers and people with criminal records. Issues to be addressed include how to determine what is on one's record, eligibility for expungement, applying for a pardon, and how to deal with private background check companies. Specifically, the new record restriction law, which became effective in 2013, will be discussed.

The program will take place on September 8 at St. John Fellowship Hall, 522-28 Hartridge Street, noon to 2:00 p.m. The presentation is free but one must pre-register by emailing Christi@@GJP.org or call <u>404.827.0027x254</u>.

The Savannah Office of Georgia Legal Services provides record restriction assistance to income-eligible individuals. The office can be contacted at <u>912.651.2180</u>. Nancy Devetter is the attorney overseeing the office's work in this regard. This work is funded with support from the United Way of the Coastal Empire.

Catholic Lawyers Guild to Host Red Mass

The Catholic Lawyers Guild of the Diocese of Savannah will host its Annual Red Mass on Friday, October 23, 2015. The Mass will be held at noon. Rather than its usual venue, the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, the Mass will be held in the chapel of the newly renovated Pastoral Center (formerly St. Mary's Home) at 2170 E. Victory Drive. All members of the bench and bar are invited to attend, as are others involved in the administration of the courts.

The Red Mass dates from the 13th century and invokes the guidance of the Holy Spirit in the administration of justice. Red vestments are worn, symbolizing the Holy Spirit.

A reception and luncheon will be held following the Mass at which the St. Thomas More Award will be presented. Any questions can be directed to Birney Bull at 236.7863 or birney@adoptneed.com

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Telfair's William Jay Society to hold "Masquerade in the Mansion," October 30, 205 Masquerade in the Mansion

Don your masks for an unforgettable Masquerade in the Mansion. Intrigue and revelry await as you wander the beautiful, historic Telfair Academy, once the mansion home of one of Georgia's most prominent historical families and now site of Telfair Museums' collection of masterful paintings and sculptures.

Enjoy unique entertainment such as magic, fire breathers, belly dancers, a photo booth, plus music and dancing, libations, late night treats and lots of surprises at the can't-miss event of the fall.

The William Jay Society is Telfair Museums' member group for young professionals. Proceeds from William Jay Society events support the museum's educational outreach and general programming. This event is open to anyone at least 21 years of age. Attire is black tie/cocktail and masks!

For additional information, sponsorship opportunities, and to purchase tickets, visit http://www.telfair.org/support/membership/groups/wjs/ You can also check us out on Facebook, or contact Rachel Wilson at 912-525-3914.

Advertisements

Jim Ashby is happy to announce his retirement. His office building on York Street across from the courthouse is also currently for sale. 6 offices, two conference rooms, 3 baths, kitchen and off street parking. If interested, call 912-441-9141.

One room office available in my law office. Separate outside entrance. \$350 per month includes utilities. Call Karen Dove Barr <u>912-</u>352-8053.