

The Citation

A Monthly Publication of the Savannah Bar Association

April 2013

Issue 94/ Volume 7

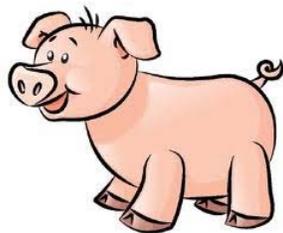
Editors: *Lindsey Hobbs and Thomas Gore*

2013 SBA Boat Ride – April 12th

The SBA will set sail on the Spirit of Harbour Town down the Savannah River to Daufuskie Island on **Friday, April 12, 2013**. The boat boards at 9:30 a.m. and leaves at 10:00 a.m. from the dock directly in front of Spanky's Restaurant on River Street. The boat is expected to return around 4:00/4:30 p.m. that afternoon. The cost is \$12 in advance and \$15 the day of for SBA members, and \$16 in advance and \$20 the day of for guests. **The deadline for the advance registration is Tuesday, April 9, 2013** and can be done online at www.savannahbar.org. Remember, you must have paid your 2012-2013 SBA dues in full in order to board the boat. A special thanks to the sponsors: Coastal Court Reporting and Video Services, Inc., Investors Title Insurance Company, Pro-Legal Copies, The Savannah Law School, and West, a Thomson Reuters Business.

Support the American Diabetes Association and Make SBA Members Kiss the Pig!

Each year, the "Savannah BOAR Association," comprised of members of the Savannah Bar Association, competes in the American Diabetes Association Kiss-a-Pig Campaign, the largest diabetes awareness and fundraising event in the area. The BOAR



Association is fronted by their fearless leader **David Smith**, who has lived with Type 1 Diabetes for 56 years. Other members of the 2013 BOAR Association include **Ashleigh Madison, Robert Hughes, Helen Bacon, Quentin Marlin, Thomas Gore, Colby Longley, Billy Otto, Joel Gerber, Sarah Doan, and Michelle Keri**. Last year the Boar Association raised over \$14,000.00. This year, the BOAR Association seeks to top that effort and beat out the other candidates vying to kiss the pig, honored by the American Diabetes Association as the original source of insulin.

The BOAR Association's fundraising efforts kicked off to a solid start with a party at Bonna Bella Yacht Club on Friday, March 22, which featured the rock n' roll sounds of Call the Cops on the dock overlooking the Herb River. The next fundraising event is a Wine, Beer and Liquor Tasting on Tuesday, April 9th at the Rebel Room above Johnnie Ganem's from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. The cost is \$40.00 per person. In addition to spirits and libations, heavy hors d'oeuvres will be served by Zunzi's. That event will also feature live entertainment by Connellis, the acoustic duo of Savannah Bar members Patrick Connell and Ben Ellis.

The following week, Call the Cops will make a return appearance for a BOAR Association fundraiser at World of Beer on Tuesday, April 16. Then, the BOAR Association will wrap up their campaign efforts with the inaugural Lawyers, Guns & Money Sporting Clays Tournament, which will be held on the afternoon of Friday, May 10 at the Forest City Gun Club in Sandfly.

Savannah Boar Association, Continued from Page 1 . . .

Tournament sponsorships will be available, and law firms are encouraged to field teams (four shooters per team) in support of the BOARS.

Please contact Robert Hughes at (912) 234-8875 or rhughes@brannenlaw.com with questions about any of these events or sponsorship opportunities for the Sporting Clays Tournament. If you cannot attend the events, you are invited to support the BOAR Association by donating online at [http://main.diabetes.org/site/TR?px=7435877 &pg=personal&fr_id=8900](http://main.diabetes.org/site/TR?px=7435877&pg=personal&fr_id=8900).

No amount is too small!

All funds raised by the Savannah BOAR Association during the Kiss-a-Pig campaign benefit the American Diabetes Association, the nation's leading organization dedicated to curing diabetes and improving the lives of all people affected by diabetes. Diabetes is the nation's fifth deadliest disease, killing more than 220,000 Americans each year. It is the leading cause of heart disease and stroke, adult blindness, kidney failure and non-traumatic amputations.

Barrister Buddies / Barrister Babies

The Editors of the Citation would like to remind everyone about the Barrister Buddies and Barrister Babies sections of the Citation. We would love to include a picture and story about your new family member or your furry friends! Please submit any Barrister Buddies or Barrister Babies for consideration to SavannahBarNewsletter@gmail.com.

Barrister Buddies

The March Barrister Buddy is Lily. Lily is a two year old black lab rescued by Savannah Bar



Association member **Lindsey Hobbs** from the Savannah Humane Society. Lily recently graduated Basic Training Class and can be seen here wearing her graduation cap. Lily's favorite activities include chewing on her toy tire and eating.

Barrister Babies

The March Barrister Baby is Bowden "Bo" Gore. Bo is the son of Savannah Bar Association members **Angela Gore** and



Thomas Gore. Bo recently turned six months old and can be seen here enjoying his first St. Patrick's Day Parade. Bo likes to spend his days lounging and is an avid drooler.

“And Justice for All” 2013 State Bar Campaign for the Georgia Legal Services Program® (GLSP) Kicks Off April 19!

When your Bar Dues Notice arrives in your mail, please go to Line E to support critical legal assistance for low income Georgians, domestic violence victims, children with special needs, veterans seeking fair treatment, the elderly, the homeless, poor people struggling to deal with tangles with government, victims of consumer fraud, and more. When you complete Line E with your add-on gift or pledge to GLSP, you are delivering on our nation’s promise of justice for all! All contributions support the GLSP Savannah Regional Office. Please do your part to make access to our courts a reality for all citizens.

GLSP was founded in 1971 by younger lawyer members of the State Bar of Georgia who were the first lawyers in Georgia to study and find a distressing disproportion between the actual needs for legal services for low income Georgians outside metro Atlanta and the lack of legal services available to them. Today, the GLSP Savannah Regional Office serves as the largest non-profit law firm for thousands of low income Georgians in Bryan, Bulloch, Candler, Chatham, Effingham, Emanuel, Evans, Liberty, Long, Tattnall and Toombs counties.

Below is a list of Bar members, law firms and others from throughout the Savannah GLSP service area who supported the 2012 State Bar Campaign for GLSP thru March 8, 2013. Many thanks to all who gave. Gifts to GLSP are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Anthony H. Abbot | Andrew H. Dekle | Lillie D. Lang | Timothy D. Roberts |
| Solomon A. Amusan | James L. Drake, Jr. | John S. Lewis | Sara G. Robin |
| Douglas G. Andrews | Gerald M. Edenfield | Long County Law Library | Sherwin P. Robin |
| Karen D. Barr | Ann M. Elmore | Fund | Robert Rosenblum |
| Wanda Andrews | Stanley H. Friedman | Melanie L. Marks | Sacred Heart Catholic |
| Hon. James F. Bass, Jr. | Murray A. Galin | Janna Martin | Church |
| Thomas C. Bordeaux, Jr. | Robert B. Galloway | Jacob Masseur | Gregory V. Sapp |
| Noble L. Boykin, Jr. | Elise O. Gray | Corinne A. Mcintosh | Savannah Community |
| Mark A. Bradley | Thomas S. Gray, Jr. | Carol B. Miller | Foundation, Inc. |
| Colleen R. Brannen | Chester J. Gregg | Kara K. Mobley | Mark Schaefer |
| William K. Broker | Stephen F. Greenberg | Sarah Morris | Steven E. Scheer |
| Eugene C. Brooks, IV | Charles C. Grile | Michael T. Mullings | Michael G. Schiavone |
| Harry W. Brown, Jr. | Thomas J. Gustinella | Owen C. Murphy | George R. Smith |
| Laurie A. Brown | William D. Harrell | Jerold L. Murphy | Wilson R. Smith |
| Bryan County Law | Stephen H. Harris | Joseph D. Newman | Daniel B. Snipes |
| Library | Wade W. Herring, II | Elizabeth J. Norman | Steven L. Sparger |
| Jonathan M. Bryant | Alice F. Hodges | Patrick T. O’Connor | Shawna P. Staton |
| Miriam M. Bryant | Inman G. Hodges | Suzanne R. Pablo | Jesse C. Stone |
| Aaron L. Buchsbaum | Scott A. Hodgin | Paul W. Painter, Jr. | Julia H. Sullivan |
| David M. Burkoff | Leamon R. Holliday, III | Jonathan B. Pannell | Karla W. Talleur |
| Robert W. Bush | Kathleen Horne | Leonard J. Panzitta | D. Duston Tapley, Jr. |
| Timothy F. Callaway, III | Leslie B. Horne | Justin M. Park | Tattnall County Law |
| Adam P. Cerbone | Edward M. Hughes | Mary B. Parks | Library |
| Mary R. Chapin | Robert L. Jenkins | Virginia E. Patterson | Wesley C. Taulbee |
| William R. Claiborne | David H. Johnson | Carl S. Pedigo, Jr. | Elizabeth F. Thompson |
| Denise M. Cooper | Francys Johnson, Jr. | Milton L. Petersen | Robert B. Turner |
| Amy L. Copeland | Benjamin W. Karpf | John E. Pirkle | Joshua D. Walker |
| William T. Daniel, Jr. | Kaye Kole | R. Nathaniel Rackett, III | Gwendolyn S. F. Waring |

Savannah Law School Hosts 2013 Southeast Legal Writing Conference and Symposium

On April 26th and 27th, Savannah Law School will host the 2013 Southeast Legal Writing Conference. Over 100 lawyers and academics are expected to attend.

The Conference will kick off on Friday at 1:30 p.m. with a symposium entitled “Legal Writing: A Doctrinal Course.” Prominent scholars in the field of legal writing will be presenting papers and discussing trends in the profession and best practices for developing the identity of the discipline. Space is limited, so please indicate whether you plan to attend the Symposium when you register. Friday’s events will conclude with a welcome reception at 6:00 p.m. hosted at the McNeil Metts Mansion across from Forsyth Park. Cocktails and hors d’oeuvres will be served. This event represents a unique opportunity to network with colleagues and expert legal writers.

Saturday will feature approximately 50 presentations by over 60 legal writing professors from around the world. Many of the presentations will provide practicing attorneys with concrete tools for improving their writing and navigating new e-filing rules and technology. They are certain to be dynamic, thought-provoking, and stimulating to both academics and practitioners. We have applied for CLE credit from the State Bar of Georgia.

Registration is \$50.00 and includes lunch on Saturday and drinks and snacks throughout both days of the conference. For additional information, please visit our website at www.savannahlawschool.org and click on the “Events” link at the bottom of the home page. A few sponsorship opportunities are still available for this significant event. For more details on how you or your firm can participate, please contact **Elizabeth Megale**, Associate Professor and Director of Legal Skills & Professionalism, Savannah Law School (emegale@savannahlawschool.org).

Savannah Law School Holds Oral Arguments

Savannah Law School’s inaugural class will participate in oral arguments **April 15th—25th**. These arguments represent the culmination of the first year legal writing experience and will also serve as a competition for membership on the moot court board. To make this experience as meaningful as possible, we are seeking practicing attorneys and judges from the local community to participate as judges for the oral argument rounds. All volunteer judges will be provided with a bench brief and score sheet, as well as sample questions for the advocates. We ask that anyone volunteering be prepared to dedicate a minimum of one hour, but we would of course welcome longer time commitments as well. The schedule is still being finalized, but we are collecting a roster of volunteers now. All those interested in participating as judges for the oral argument rounds, please contact **Elizabeth Megale**, Associate Professor and Director of Legal Skills & Professionalism, Savannah Law School, at emegale@savannahlawschool.org. Please remember to include your name, contact information, and best available times during the week and on the weekend.

Savannah Bar YLD Update

On March 7th, members of the Savannah Bar gathered at the Coastal Bar Center for a CLE entitled Ethics and Professionalism Concerns with the Use of Social Media. The panelists, which included Savannah's **Bates Lovett** and **Kellyn McGee**, opined on some of the potential benefits and complications of the use of Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, and other social media in the practice of law. Attendees enjoyed a happy hour at Tondee's Tavern after the CLE.

YLD members are gearing up for the SBA Annual Boat Ride on April 12th. The YLD will offer commemorative T-shirts for \$12 each, so please make plans to purchase one! After the Boat Ride, the revelry will continue at a YLD-hosted happy hour.

Also in April, the Savannah YLD will hold a happy hour at Moon River Brewing Company, which recently opened an outdoor patio at the corner of Bay and Whitaker Streets. Please plan to join us on April 26th at 5:30 p.m.

For more information about upcoming events and how to become involved with the Savannah Bar YLD, please email Amanda Love at alove@thebowmanlawoffice.com.

Law Day Awards

Blake Greco, President-Elect of the SBA YLD, will present four awards at this year's annual SBA Law Day luncheon, which will be held on Thursday, May 9, 2013. Please contact **Blake Greco** to nominate individuals deserving of the awards. The awards being presented as well as a brief description of the criteria for each award is below:

Judge Edward Hester Award: recognizes outstanding local courthouse personnel who have been of particular assistance to the members of the local bar.

Liberty Bell Award: recognizes a non-lawyer for outstanding service in promoting a better understanding of our Constitution and Bill of Rights. The recipient encourages a greater respect for law in the courts, stimulates a deeper sense of individual responsibility so that citizens recognize their duties as well as their rights, and fosters a better understanding and appreciation of the rule of law.

Robbie Robinson Award: presented to a member of the legal profession who has demonstrated dedication to the principles of service to individuals and of advancement of the legal, political, social and civil rights of the citizens of the Savannah community.

John B. Miller Award: presented to a member of the Savannah Bar who is selflessly dedicated to making the Savannah area a better place to live through volunteer community service.

The SBA YLD is proud to continue the tradition of recognizing individuals for outstanding service to the Savannah legal community through the presentation of the Law Day awards. Should you have any comments or recommendations, please call **Blake Greco** at [912-236-3311](tel:912-236-3311) or email him at bgreco@olivermaner.com.

Practitioner's Corner: Practice Tips From Local Bar Members

Real Estate Closing Practice Hints for Owner Occupied Property

By: **Steve Greenberg**

A very important aspect of a residential closing is the ability to provide a purchaser with important and valuable information. It not only makes the homeowner a more knowledgeable person but also reflects well on you and your attention to the details of closing. One of those very valuable items of information is the Homestead Exemption. The web site of the Chatham County Board of Assessors has several pages of information dealing with various types of assessments. For the regular Homestead Exemption, it is easy enough to print the page then provide it to the purchaser. There is also information on the Stephens-Day exemption and that should also be pointed out. In that way, material is delivered at closing on the exemptions, the application requirements, and the time to file. It is then obviously up to the purchaser to go to the courthouse and apply. Likewise, on refinances, check the title notes and see if there is an indication of Homestead Exemption. If not, then you will be helpful to the homeowner to ask if an application was made in the past. It is not unusual to find a person who meant to file but never did. By reminding that person, you really have provided a benefit that is not only an aid but results in much good will. Finally, always remember that the parties should understand that you represent the lender. While the information you are providing is a true service, it is only gratuitous and should not be construed as anything but that.

Coastal Bankruptcy Law Institute 21st Annual Bankruptcy Law and Trends

The Coastal Bankruptcy Law Institute announces its 21st Annual Bankruptcy Law and Trends of the Southern District of Georgia seminar to be held on Friday, April 19, 2013, at the Savannah International Trade & Convention Center on Hutchinson Island. This year's topics include: Chapter 13 Trustees' Update, Recent Appellate Decisions, Recent Decisions in the Southern District of Georgia, The United States Trustee's Role in Chapter 11 Accountability and Consumer Protection, and Ethics/Best Practices. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. and the seminar will begin promptly at 9:00 a.m. For more information and to register, visit www.bankruptcylawresearch.org/seminars.html.

The SBA Citation is always seeking submissions for upcoming editions. We encourage you to submit your professional and personal announcements; law-related advertisements; articles or announcements about particular philanthropies you are involved in; and other written submissions. Suggestions about ways to improve are also always welcome. And, of course, we love to receive photographs to share with our readers! Bear in mind that our readers include not only current SBA members, but also many judges and law school students as well. Please contact us at SavannahBarNewsletter@gmail.com with submissions or questions.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HunterMaclean partner **Kirby Mason** was honored on March 22, 2013 at Savannah Technical College Foundation's annual 2013 Tribute to Community STARS, held in the Eckburg Auditorium on Savannah Tech's campus. Every year, the Savannah Technical College Foundation publicly recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions through leadership and community involvement. Founded in 1984, the Savannah Technical College Foundation has diligently worked to enhance adult literacy, learning, workforce training and economic development in Bryan, Chatham Effingham and Liberty Counties. Mason represents a wide range of businesses in contract disputes, litigates real estate issues and defends banking institutions as part of HunterMaclean's litigation practice group. Since coming to Savannah she has served on numerous community organizations, volunteering her time and talents to organizations such as the United Way, the Rape Crisis Center, the Boy Scouts of America, Big Brothers and Sisters, the Emmaus House, Habitat for Humanity, the Truancy Intervention Project, and others.

Savannah Law School Open House

This spring, Savannah Law School will host an Open Houses for prospective students on May 11, 2013. This Open House provides prospective students and their families the opportunity to tour our beautiful facilities across from Forsyth Park, meet some of our faculty and staff, learn about the history and mission of the law school, participate in a mock class, and hear about the Savannah Law School experience firsthand from current students. During the Open House, the application and admission process will be explained as well as the availability of scholarships and financial aid. This event is an exciting opportunities to share the history and charm of Savannah and its only law school with prospective students. All interested in attending should RSVP at www.savannahlawschool.org.

HunterMaclean partner **Dennis Keene** was recently named chair of the ALFA International Product Liability Practice Group. The ALFA International Product Liability Practice Group provides legal counsel to product manufacturers, distributors, wholesalers and retailers. Membership in this practice group includes ALFA International law firms from around the world. As chair, Keene is responsible for the overall direction and business development initiatives of the practice group. Keene is an AV Preeminent rated partner who represents corporations and individuals in tort-based litigation with an emphasis in product liability and transportation law.