

Editors: *Lindsey Hobbs and Thomas Gore*

8th Annual Savannah Guardian Ad Litem Charity Golf Tournament

The Young Lawyers' Division of the Savannah Bar Association is proud to announce that it will host its **8th Annual Golf Tournament** on Friday, **June 7, 2013**, at The Landings Club's Plantation Course (prompt 1:30 p.m. shotgun start). As always, all proceeds will benefit the Savannah Guardian Ad Litem Program, a local and very worthy charitable endeavor which relies primarily on community volunteers and charitable donations to support its operations.

There are two ways that you can assist us in our mission. First, you may field a four-person team to play in the Tournament. The entry fee is \$125 per player or \$450 per team. It includes greens fees, cart fees, range balls, lunch, snacks, beer, soft drinks, and the opportunity to win Tournament prizes. Second, you may agree to sponsor a hole, which will entitle you to a tee box sign and inclusion of your firm's or business's name on any Tournament promotional materials. The sponsorship fee is \$250.

This represents a great value for the chance to play a world class golf course, while also benefiting a wonderful cause. If you would like to participate or contribute, please contact **Colby Longley** at (912) 232-6000 or by email at cel@mccorklejohnson.com or **Bryan Schivera** at (912) 236-3311 or by email at bschivera@olivermaner.com. We sincerely hope that you will choose to participate in the Tournament in one or both of the ways outlined above. Thank you in advance for your consideration and anticipated support.

2013 Boat Ride Recap



Harvey Weitz, "The Admiral," Signs a t-shirt created with his image by Chris Smith for the YLD.

On April 12th, The Savannah Bar Association enjoyed the springtime weather with the annual boat ride to Daufuskie Island. A special thanks to **Harvey Weitz** and **Langston Bass** for organizing another great trip. The SBA would also like to give a special thank you to this year's generous sponsors:

Coastal Court Reporting and Video Services, Inc.

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The Savannah Law School

West, a Thomson Reuters Business

Please remember to utilize these businesses, whose continue support of the SBA make the annual boat ride a success.

Barrister Buddies / Barrister Babies

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 Baby

Savannah attorney **Francesca Macchiaverna** and her husband, **John Garceau**, announce the arrival of Helena Hardy Cookman Garceau, their second daughter, born on March 1, 2013.



Barrister Buddy

Briggs is a six year old blue merle Australian Shepherd who was adopted by Savannah attorney **Heather Hammonds** and fiancé Brett Lundy on February 2, 2013. He was rescued from a kill shelter in Tennessee by the Aussie Rescue &



Placement Helpline organization, and spent several weeks at a foster home in Savannah before finding his forever home. Briggs is as sweet as he is handsome, and the only thing he loves more than people is a tennis ball.

Hugh Thompson to Become New Chief Justice

Presiding Justice Hugh P. Thompson of Milledgeville, Georgia, has been unanimously elected as the new Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia. He will assume the position on August 15, 2013, succeeding Chief Justice Carol W. Hunstein. The state's Chief Justice presides over Georgia's judicial branch and serves as the main spokesperson for the Court, as well as for the entire judiciary. He presides over oral arguments and runs the meetings in which the Court makes its decisions, although he has only one vote as does each of the Justices. The Chief Justice, who serves one 4-year term, also chairs the Georgia Judicial Council, which governs all levels of the state's courts. The Court has also unanimously elected Justice P. Harris Hines to become the new Presiding Justice. The Presiding Justice serves in the Chief Justice's absence.

Ted Henneman Selected for Pro Bono Award

By Bill Broker

The State Bar of Georgia Pro Bono Project has chosen **Ted Henneman**, a partner at **HunterMaclean**, as the recipient of its 2013 Business Commitment Pro Bono Business Law Award. The award honors the business law Pro Bono contributions of an individual lawyer, corporate legal department or law firm to the nonprofit community development sector. The firm or individual selected must have demonstrated a commitment to the development and delivery of legal services to the poor in a business context through a Pro Bono program by delivering business law services on a Pro Bono basis to an emerging nonprofit serving the needs of low-income communities in Georgia.

Ted was nominated for the award by the Savannah Bar Association. The award will be presented at a reception in October at the offices of the State Bar in Atlanta.

Aware of his experience in the area of affordable housing and financing through the use of I.R.C. § 42 Tax Credits, Ted was approached by Step Up Savannah and Georgia Legal Services. His expertise and interest was seen as crucial in the development of a strategy to have the City of Savannah implement a housing trust fund. Ted attended a workshop on the development of such a fund provided to members of the board of Step Up and began to work fashioning a plan to present to City Council. Council approved a resolution establishing a housing fund and directed \$300,000 into it. Ted worked with a committee to establish the policies and procedures to be implemented to govern the use of the fund and remains involved.

Ted's work reflects the successful cooperation of an energetic anti-poverty organization thinking about long-term solutions, a Legal Services program adducing creative ways to make Pro Bono activities available to attorneys not typically involved in Pro Bono work, and a member of the bar who recognizes his possession of a unique legal skill set.

His efforts serve as a model for other attorneys who, while interested in having an impact on the lives of the poor, are unable to sometimes see how their skills can be effectively utilized in a Pro Bono program.

Congratulations to Judge Louisa Abbot

The Savannah Bar Association would like to congratulate Chatham County Superior Court **Judge Louisa Abbot** on her election to the presidency of the Council of Superior Court Judges. The CSCJ assists the Superior Court Judges and the Judicial Circuits by providing administrative support, research, programming, court automation, and communications.

Chris Colson Honored by Fair Housing Council

By Bill Broker

On April 19th 2013, the Savannah-Chatham County Fair Housing Council held its 17th Annual Fair Housing Luncheon at the EOA Administration Building. The event is held annually, recognizing April as Fair Housing Month. This year's event also marked the 45th Anniversary of the Fair Housing Act and the 25th Anniversary of the passage of the Fair Housing Act Amendments.

Chris Colson was recognized for his work on behalf marginalized and disabled individuals to secure fair and lawful treatment pursuant to the provisions of the Fair Housing Act. Colson is known throughout the community for his vigorous advocacy in the area of Fair Housing and for his efforts to educate members of the bar, those who work with the homeless and the public generally about the protections afforded by the Fair Housing Act. Few have worked as hard for the homeless and near-homeless as Mr. Colson. He was named the 2013 recipient of the William K. Broker Good Citizen Award, an given annually by the Fair Housing Council to an individual who demonstrates (1) a dedication to the efforts of furthering fair housing; (2) a dedication to assisting individuals who are less fortunate; and (3) a willingness to continue the struggle for equal treatment under the law.

Savannah Bar YLD Update

As is typically the case, spring has been a fun and busy season for the Savannah Bar YLD. The Savannah Bar Association's Annual Boat Ride took place on April 12th. The Savannah YLD designed commemorative T-shirts, which were such a hit that they sold out in a short time. After the Boat Ride, the revelry continued for young lawyers at a YLD-hosted happy hour.

Also in April, the Savannah YLD hosted a happy hour at Moon River Brewing Company, which recently opened a beer garden at the corner of Bay and Whitaker Streets downtown. Beautiful spring weather helped to make this Friday afternoon get-together a great success.

Savannah YLD members are looking forward to the Eighth Annual Savannah Guardian Ad Litem Charity Golf Tournament, which will take place on June 7th at The Landings. Sponsorships are still available for this great event. If interested in sponsoring or, or if you would like to participate in the tournament, please contact **Colby Longley** at cel@mccorklejohnson.com or **Bryan Schivera** at bschivera@olivermaner.com.

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

The Savannah Bar Association Congratulates the Following Winners

On May 9, 2013, the Young Lawyers' Division of the Savannah Bar Association organized its annual luncheon and award ceremony in recognition of Law Day. Law Day, first established by President Dwight Eisenhower in 1958, honors the nation's commitment to the rule of law. The Savannah Bar Association congratulates the following winners. The 2013 theme was "Realizing the Dream: Equality for All."

Sharon Hughes was presented with the *Judge Edward Hester Award*, which recognizes outstanding local courthouse personnel who have been of particular assistance to the members of the local bar. Sharon was a beloved employee of the Chatham County Recorder's Court Clerk's office for 32 years before retiring earlier in 2013.

Allison S. Konter was presented the *Liberty Bell Award*, which 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. Allison, a government teacher at Islands High School, was named 2013 Teacher of the Year by Savannah-Chatham Public School System.

Dennis B. Keene was awarded the *John B. Miller Award*, which is 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. Dennis is a partner at HunterMaclean representing corporations and individuals in tort-based litigation. Dennis, who served in the U.S. Army JAG until 1999, is a Board member of the Rape Crisis Center, a member of the 200 Club which supports families of fallen police and firefighters, is a member of the Rules Subcommittee with the State Bar of Georgia, and has spent the past 13 years coaching Country Day's mock trial team.

Douglas G. Andrews won the *Robbie Robinson Award*, which recognizes 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. Doug, who previously served as a JAG Civil Litigation Attorney, Staff Judge Advocate, and Circuit Military Judge, currently sits as the Thunderbolt, Garden City, and Port Wentworth Municipal Court Judge, Pro-Tem.

In addition to the annual Law Day luncheon, YLD members attend local schools to interact with students and discuss topics associated with this year's theme. This year, young lawyers **Colby Longley, Patrick Connell, Quentin Marlin, Jacob Masee, Thomas Gore, Amanda Love, Falen Cox, Bryan Schivera,** and **Blake Greco** generously donated their time to visit Savannah area schools. A special thank you to YLD President-Elect **Blake Greco** for organizing the 2013 Law Day.

Savannah Younger Lawyers Kiss Pig!

The Savannah Boar Association, a team of Savannah Bar members including elder statesman **Dave Smith** and younger lawyers **Robert Hughes, Quentin Marlin, Joel Gerber, Colby Longley, Ashleigh Madison, Helen Bacon, Thomas Gore, Sarah Doan, and Billy Otto**, competed in the 2013 Kiss-A-Pig campaign to raise money for the American Diabetes Association. The team **WON** the competition, raising over \$43,000.00 for the American Diabetes Association. The entire campaign raised almost \$240,000.00. The lawyers' team sponsored several fund-raising events, including a rock 'n roll party at the Bonna Bella Marina, a craft beer-, wine-, and liquor-tasting social at the Rebel Room above Johnnie Ganem's, a week-long beer fest at World of Beer, and capped the campaign with a spectacularly successful sporting clays tournament at the Forest City Gun Club (which alone raised almost \$27,000.00). The Savannah Boars thank all of the members of the Bar who supported the team throughout the campaign, attending the events and making donations. All of the money raised goes to the American Diabetes Association to fund research into the quest for a cure for diabetes, and advancements to improve the lives of those living with diabetes today.



*Savannah Bar Association member **Dave Smith** kisses the pig after his team won the American Diabetes Association's fundraising competition.*

Humane Society Doggy Carnival Comes to Town

The Humane Society for Greater Savannah is pleased to host its 13th Annual Doggie Carnival on Sunday, June 2, 2013 from noon to 6 p.m. in Forsyth Park at the Band Shell. It's kid-friendly with bounce castles, cotton candy, popcorn, face painting, and fun contests like the Pooch Smooch, and canine friendly! So bring your best friend for Doggie Derby races, contests, and doggie ice cream. Watch Circus Stella and K-9 dog demos, meet Humane Society dogs looking for new homes. There will be plenty of great food, you can "ask the vet" and get "advice from the behavior specialist," or commission a portrait by the talented SCAD sketchers. Admission to the carnival is free! Don't miss this fun-filled event. All proceeds benefit the Humane Society for Greater Savannah

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Local attorney **Rob Brannen**, a partner with **Bouhan Falligant**, was elected Vice President of the Georgia Bar Association Real Property Law Section at the Real Property Law Institute held on May 9th to 11th, 2013. The Georgia Bar Real Property Law Section promotes the interests of Georgia real estate attorneys, including providing continuing legal education, monitoring and participating in legislation and litigation, and the coordination of pro bono legal services. Brannen, an attorney with expertise in real estate law, has worked diligently on the Ethics Committee of the Real Property Law Section for the last 7 years.

HunterMaclean announces the addition of attorney **Rebecca L. Szczepanski** as of counsel with the firm's ERISA and Employee Benefits Practice Group. An accomplished attorney and C.P.A., Szczepanski brings extensive experience advising for-profit and non-profit clients on ERISA and employee benefits issues. Before joining HunterMaclean, Szczepanski served as senior counsel at the law firm of Ice Miller, LLP in Indianapolis, IN and as general counsel for Employee Health Insurance Management, Inc. in Southfield, MI. She earned a J.D., *cum laude*, from Wayne State University Law School in Detroit in 1996, with distinction as a member of the Order of the Coif. She also completed a B.B.A. in Accounting and General Business, *magna cum laude*, at Saginaw Valley State University in University Center, MI in 1987.

HunterMaclean announces the hiring of Shawn W. Hill as Chief Technology Officer. Hill has more than 20 years of experience in the law firm IT field and will be based at the firm's Savannah office. In his new position, Hill will oversee all IT operations at the firm and develop a comprehensive technology plan which supports the firm's overall business development strategy. In addition, Hill has served as an adjunct professor, teaching a variety of college level credit and non-credit courses in information technology.

Only \$550.00! Upstairs Commercial Condo located on the Southside right off Abercorn (10500 Abercorn Street - Unit N). It is across from a bank and right above the ERA Kelly Fisher Real Estate Office. There is about 800 square feet. There is an office for a secretary, three other offices, storage closet, half bath, kitchenette, and a waiting area. Please feel free to call me to ask any questions you may have or to view. My name is Mike. My telephone number is (912) 272-0005. Thanks!

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.