



Division News

Volume I, Issue 1 • July 2004

Additional YLD and VBA news is available at www.vba.org.

Wills for Heroes expands across Virginia

George Mason University School of Law is partnering with the VBA/YLD, the Arlington County Bar Association, the VSB Young Lawyers Conference, Virginia CLE, the ABA/YLD Special Committee on 9/11 Legal Assistance, LexisNexis, the Fellows of the Virginia Law Foundation, Hunton & Williams and McGuireWoods LLP to provide free wills, powers of attorney, and advance medical directives for Arlington County firefighters, police, sheriff's deputies and other emergency personnel in the "Wills for Heroes" program.

With the program now established in Arlington, organizers are preparing to launch "Wills for Heroes" in the Roanoke area this summer.

Three basic will forms, as well as an advance medical directive and a "springing" power of attorney, have been created. Virginia CLE provided invaluable assistance in developing and coding the forms into "HotDocs," the document assembly program donated by LexisNexis.

From this point, the program will take a three-step approach.

First, volunteer attorneys and law students will attend a free training seminar introducing volunteers to the program and provides an explanation of the document templates and a discussion of the logistics of the program.

Second, first responders will attend a presentation to educate them regarding the benefits and effects of estate planning in general and the specific documents being offered.

Finally, volunteer attorneys, along with George Mason law students, will meet with the emergency personnel to prepare and supervise execution of the documents, which will be prepared using laptop computers donated by Hunton & Williams and printers donated by McGuireWoods LLP. The Fellows of the Virginia Law Foundation provided needed funding for the program.

In order to participate, volunteers must first complete a training session. For additional information about the program, training sessions and volunteering, please contact program coordinator Heather Dawson at heather.dawson@ofplaw.com.

Central Virginia Pro Bono Hotline seeks volunteers

The VBA/YLD Central Virginia Pro Bono Hotline, which has been recognized by the American Bar Association for outstanding public service, helps the Central Virginia Legal Aid Society handle thousands of requests for legal assistance each year, and it seeks volunteers to answer requests for legal advice by returning phone calls to pre-screened clients with specific legal problems during scheduled hotline hours.

Volunteers receive three hours of CLE-approved training in housing, domestic, consumer and employment law that will enable him/her to address questions most frequently asked of CVLAS; schedule in advance a commitment of three to six hours of service each calendar quarter; gain experience in counseling clients on a variety of legal matters; and provide legal assistance to those who otherwise could not afford it.

A training session was held on June 15 at Hunton & Williams LLP in Richmond. Videotapes are available for those who could not attend but would like to volunteer. To participate, please e-mail or call Coby Beck at cbeck@hunton.com or (804) 788-8576.

Clowning around in Duck



The younger generation enjoyed the spring VBA/YLD Executive Committee and Council Meeting at The Sanderling as much as their parents did!

Bowling and black-tie for YLD at Summer Meeting

Continuing its series of lucky strikes at the most recent Summer and Annual Meetings, the Young Lawyers Division will host a bowling social for its members and their guests during the VBA Summer Meeting on Saturday, July 17, from 9:30 to 11:30 p.m. This event was a highlight of the 2003 Summer Meeting and provides an opportunity for young lawyers to enjoy each other's company. Black-tie bowling can be fun! (Kilts optional.)

The VBA/YLD Executive Committee and Council will hold its business meeting and breakfast on Saturday, July 17, from 8 to 9:30 a.m. For more details about the Summer Meeting, visit www.vba.org and click on the Summer Meeting link. There's still time to register and join the fun!

News Briefs

- **Jim Harvey** (Vandevanter Black LLP, Norfolk), former co-chair of the Tidewater Pro Bono Hotline Committee, has received the Hoffman Award from the Norfolk and Portsmouth Bar Association, given annually to an outstanding young lawyer.

YLD Calendar

VBA Summer Meeting, July 15-18, The Homestead, Hot Springs.

VBA/YLD Fall Executive Committee and Council Meeting, September 15-17, Hyatt Regency Reston.

VBA Annual Meeting, January 20-23, Colonial Williamsburg.