Get Involved!
By Cowin Knowles, President

The MCBA wants you to get involved. In the next three weeks, you can do this in three different ways. First, contact Tamika Miller at 625-6959 or by email at tamika@millerssmithllc.com and sign up to become a mentor for first year law students from Jones School of Law this summer. We need MCBA members to give a little of their time to let a first year student see what a day in the life of a lawyer is all about. This is part of the Foundations of the Legal Profession course students that are currently taking. Take a student to a hearing, trial, deposition, mediation, loan closing, etc. The student then writes a paper about his/her experience. You have no further obligation to the student besides letting him/her tag along with you. Give a student a break and become a mentor.

Second, get a team up to play in this year’s golf tournament to be held in conjunction with the Mental Health America Montgomery Association at Arrowhead Country Club on May 1. Registration will start at 11:00 a.m. with a shotgun start at 1:00 p.m. This is the golf tournament for MCBA this year, so put your team together and register.

Third, put May 14 on your calendars and be sure to attend the social at the Pine Bar sponsored by DiscoverePartners and Eagle Court Reporting. The Pine Bar social is always our most attended of the year so make plans to attend.

Get involved today and get the most out of your MCBA membership.

May 14
MCBA Social at
Pine Bar 5:30 p.m.
Women’s Section Update

By Laura Eubank, President WLS

A little rain won’t scare us away! Several members and their families showed up to participate in the Walk of Life on April 18th despite several days of storms and the threat of more that day. Some members chose to race to the finish line, while others enjoyed a leisurely walk with their families. It ended up being a beautiful day to get out and support breast cancer awareness in Alabama. Thank you to all of our members and their families that gave up their Saturday morning to support such a great cause!

The following Wednesday, April 22nd, the Women’s Section hosted a panel discussion and continuing legal education class at Faulkner Law entitled “More than Heels and Pearls: Professionalism for the Female Lawyer.” We had a room full of students show up to hear our panel made up of Sherrie Phillips, Roianne Conner, Kelly McTear, and Connie Murray discuss how female attorneys can succeed in the field, as well as life balance issues and choices that face so many female attorneys. We are so grateful to all of the attorneys that showed up as well and participated in the open discussions. Everyone had a great time laughing and learning, while so many valuable lessons and strategies were shared with the students at the same time.

The fun doesn’t stop there! We are now preparing for the annual Coffee with the Judges, which we will host alongside Baker Realtime Worldwide Court Reporting and Video and MALS on May 12th. Please join us from 7:30-8:30 a.m. in the Jury Assembly Room at the Montgomery County Courthouse to spend some time together and get to know our Montgomery County Judges!

Save the date for June 13th! It’s almost time for the annual MCBA Women’s Section family BBQ. Once again, Roianne Conner is allowing us to take over her home and pool for an afternoon full of fun. There will, of course, be a bouncy house and waterslide for all of our members’ children (and some of our brave members) to enjoy. You don’t want to miss this opportunity to get out and have some fun!

We are also currently working on getting another spa day set up for August. Please also tentatively mark your calendar for September 1st for our annual meeting. Lastly, the Court Referral Job Fair is June 11th. The Women’s Section is helping to gather gently used professional attire of all sizes to give to the participants of the Job Fair. If any MCBA members have items in their closets that they would like to donate, please contact any of our board members or email us at mcbawomen@gmail.com. We would like to have everything gathered together for the organizers of the event by June 4th. As usual, keep an eye on your email for details on upcoming events!

Laura Eubank
Women’s Section participants in the Joy to Life Run/Walk even brought spouses and children for a family outing. Pictured left are some of the WLS team.

Below: Aigner Kolom and Lashandra Warren get a selfie before the race.

The Joy to Life Foundation is a non-profit organization founded in 2001. Their mission is to provide free mammograms and other breast cancer screenings when necessary to medically underserved women in Alabama, provide limited grants when needed, build and support breast cancer awareness among all Alabamians, and promote overall health, well-being, and education throughout the state.

Pictured right: Speakers on the panel at the More than Pearls and Heels: Professionalism for the Female Attorney CLE at Jones School of Law – Laura Eubank, Sherrie Phillips, Roianne Conner, and Connie Murray.

Below: There was a strong turnout for the Women’s Section CLE at Jones School of Law.
VLP Corner by Mike Martin, Executive Director MVLP

I imagine few, if any, of you spend time worrying about where your next meal is coming from or whether your family will have a roof over their heads by the end of the week. We’re fortunate enough to have the wherewithal to cover the expenses for the basics in life, usually with enough left over to eat out on occasion, take our family on vacations and enjoy a good life.

Through our work at MVLP we find, unfortunately, that many residents of Montgomery County don’t have the luxury of deciding which restaurant they’ll eat in tonight or which condo they’ll stay in at the beach. Their concerns are more often about keeping the lights on at home, about having enough money after paying the bills to put food on the table and, in too many instances, whether they’ll have a house to stay in by the close of the week.

During the month of April we joined with the Foreclosure Prevention Partnership to focus on the growing problem – in Montgomery and throughout Alabama – of homeowners facing foreclosure and falling victim to so-called mortgage relief programs. These are little more than scams designed to prey upon the vulnerable by convincing frantic homeowners that, by paying an up-front fee, they can get relief from foreclosure.

The Montgomery area appears to be leading the state with the highest percentage of homeowners reporting having been victims of these schemes. In fact, two out of three homeowners applying for foreclosure assistance admit to having wired money to out-of-town operations, only to be later told that their homes could not be saved and they would not be receiving a refund.

MVLP held a recent foreclosure-focused clinic to assist these homeowners facing the prospect of losing their home. Thanks to Tim Gallagher and Kristin Dillard for volunteering to offer advice and counsel to clients facing this devastating circumstance. We look forward to having more issue-focused clinics and invite you to help out by agreeing to volunteer a couple of hours to assist clients.

Our regular monthly advice and counsel clinic was well attended, both by clients and attorneys, addressing issues including domestic relations, probate, landlord/tenant and consumer debt. Thanks to Shirley Brown, Evan Allen, Leslie Pescia, Ben Gibbons, Matthew Ward, Leigh Haynie, Bill Messer and Kathryn Van Tol for giving of their time and expertise to make this clinic a success.

Finally, I know there are times when you see a prospective client that has a civil legal problem that either doesn’t fit within your practice, or the client is unable to afford to engage a private attorney. We can help. If you encounter an indigent client with a civil problem, please ask them to contact us. We will determine if their issue is one that falls within our program guidelines and once they meet income/asset requirements – generally household income within 125% of the federal poverty guidelines – we will endeavor to get them the legal help they need. They can call MVLP at 265-0222, ext. 2 for case review and intake.

As always, we welcome and encourage you to join with us, as a volunteer once-a-month at a two-hour clinic, at our once-a-month District Court Help Desk, or by agreeing to take two cases during the year. Or all three. Your choice. Give us a call at 265-0222 and experience the joy of helping those less fortunate fellow residents who deserve access to justice.
VLPs are MVPs (Most Valued Professionals)

The following attorneys accepted cases in April 2015:
Leslie Pescia  Beasley, Allen, Crow, Methvin, Portis, & Miles, P.C.
James G. Hawthorne  Copeland, Franco, Screws, & Gill, P.A.
John C. Craft  Faulkner University Jones School of Law
Joana Ellis  Holtsford Gilliland Higgins Hitson & Howard, P.C.
Robert M. Beno  Robert M. Beno, Attorney at Law

The following attorneys closed cases in April 2015:
William R. Blanchard (2)  Blanchard Law Offices
John Craft  Faulkner University Jones School of Law
Marvin H. Campbell  Law Offices of Marvin H. Campbell
Mark E. Smith  Attorney and Counselor at Law

We also wish to express our appreciation to Connie J. Morrow from C.J. Morrow Carraway Baker Law, LLC and Richard Franklin Matthews, Jr. of The Anderson Law Firm, LLC for taking the time to make media appearances on behalf of the Montgomery Volunteer Lawyers Program in April.

Young Lawyers Gear Up for Clay Shoot

By Jesse Anderson, YLS President

The Young Lawyers Charity Clay Shoot will be Friday, June 5th at 2PM, at the Lower Wetumpka Shotgun Sports Club. Yes, it is conveniently scheduled so that you may justify taking off at lunch on that Friday. Is an early start to the weekend the ulterior motive behind this event? No, of course not; it’s just an added bonus. All of the proceeds from the event go to benefit the Montgomery County Volunteer Lawyers Program. Last year, the event raised over $4,000. We hope to exceed that number this year.

There are different sponsorship/shooter options available, all of which are very affordable and cheap compared to other charity clay shoots (see attached flyer). If you are not a shooter, that’s okay. You, or your company, can sponsor a station. We’ll slap your logo on the event signage, and you can come out to socialize.

The deadline to sign up is May 22, 2015. Contact Ali Hawthorne, or any of the YLS officers and board members, for details or to sign up for the event. Registration and sponsor forms are on pages 10-12 and are also on the MCBA website at www.mcbar.org

Midtown Pizza Kitchen and Pine Bar are once again supplying food and refreshments for the social after the shoot. Also, just like last year, disgustingly large prizes will be awarded to the top shooters and top teams.
**Meet the Courthouse Dog, “Willow”**

Willow was the focus of attention at the recent CLE about Courthouse Dogs presented by Ellen O’Neill-Stephens and Dr. Celeste Walsen, DVM, from the Courthouse Dogs Foundation. Left, Samuel White shakes with Willow. Right, Tamara Martin, Willow’s owner and handler, speaks to a CLE participant.

To learn more about the role of courthouse dogs, go to www.courthousedogs.org.
Membership News

Welcome to our newest members:

**Steven Chumbler**—Steven R. Chumbler, Esq.  
**Bill Lewis**—Law Office of Bill Lewis, LLC

**Christy Crow**—Jinks, Crow, & Dickson, P.C.  
**Evan Loftis**—Beasley Allen

**Ben Gibbons**—Beasley Allen  
**Tim McCollum**—AL Law Enforcement Agency

**Lynn Granger**—Law Office of Roianne Conner  
**Matt A. Vega**—Dean, Jones School of Law

**William A. Gunter**—AL Dept. of Conservation  
**Jennifer N. Weber**—AL Dept. of Conservation

**Barbara Ann Hanley**—Azar & Azar, LLC  
**Lindsey Whaley**—Law Office of Roianne Conner

Two attorneys from **Beasley, Allen, Crow, Methvin, Portis, & Miles, P.C.** have been appointed to Plaintiffs Steering Committees in multidistrict litigations dealing with data security breaches. **Dee Miles**, head of the firm’s Consumer Fraud section, has been named to the Plaintiffs Steering Committee for the multidistrict litigation over a massive Home Depot data breach. Miles was appointed by U.S. District Judge Thomas W. Thrash in the Northern District of Georgia, who is overseeing the MDL. The litigation involves consumer and financial institution plaintiffs who were affected by the incident, which compromised up to 56 million credit and debit card numbers, and was believed to have occurred at Home Depot stores between April and September of 2014.

**Gibson Vance**, Principal with Beasley Allen, has been appointed to serve on the Plaintiffs Steering Committee for the multidistrict litigation surrounding a massive data breach affecting customers of Community Health Systems, Inc. The litigation is consolidated under Judge Karon Owen Bowdre in the U. S. District Court, Northern District of Alabama. In January, Community Health Systems, Inc. admitted data from its affiliated physician practices and clinics was breached in what it terms a “foreign-based cyber-attack” on its computer network. An estimated 4.5 million individuals who obtained services from the CHS-affiliated physicians in the last five years may have been affected.

Honor those who sacrificed their lives for your freedom.

**Memorial Day** May 25th
Let the good times roll!

Join the fun at the MCBA Social!

May 14th at Pine Bar
5:30-7:00 p.m.

Thank you, Eagle Court Reporting and Bert Morris, for being sponsors of the May 14 Social!
You’re invited to have

Coffee with the Judges

Tuesday, May 12th     7:30-8:30 a.m.

Jury Assembly Room, County Courthouse

Sponsored by MALS, Baker Realtime Reporting, and the MCBA Women’s Section

MONTGOMERY COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

YOUNG LAWYERS SECTION
CHARITY CLAY SHOOT

Friday, June 5, 2015 at 2:00pm

LOWER WETUMPKA
SHOTGUN SPORTS CLUB
4758 LOWER WETUMPKA ROAD
MONTGOMERY, AL 36110

• Cost is $75 per shooter*
• Register individually or as a Team of 4
• For further registration or sponsorship information, contact Alison Hawthorne at
  ALISON.HAWTHORNE@BEASLEYALLEN.COM

*All proceeds from this charity clay shoot will benefit the Montgomery Volunteer Lawyer’s Program and their efforts to provide free legal services to low-income Alabamians in civil matters.
REGISTRATION FORM

Montgomery County Bar Association Young Lawyers Section Charity Clay Shoot

Lower Wetumpka Sports Club on Friday, June 5, 2015 at 2:00pm

You may register as an individual or as a team of four. The cost is $75 per shooter. If you register as an individual, you will be placed in a team of four the day of the shoot. If you would like to register as a team of four, each shooter must complete their own registration form.

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Do you already have a team of four shooters?

Yes

No

If No, you will be placed in a team of four the day of the shoot.

If Yes, please provide their names below. (Note: each shooter must complete their own registration form.)

______________________________
______________________________
______________________________

Teams are encouraged to bring their own golf carts.
Are you bringing your own golf cart?

Yes

No

Teams are encouraged to bring their own golf carts.
Are you bringing your own golf cart?

Yes

No
Instructions For Shooters:  (please feel free to tear this section off for your records)

Please have all four members of your team arrive at the Lower Wetumpka Sports Club no later than 2:00pm on June 5, 2015 for registration.  The Lower Wetumpka Sports Club is located at 4758 Lower Wetumpka Road, Montgomery, Alabama 36110.

Each shooter will need to bring his/her own eye and ear protection, 100 shotgun shells, and a gun.  The Lower Wetumpka Sports Club has everything available for purchase on site if any of the shooters need anything, including 7 rental guns.  As indicated above, shooters are also encouraged to bring their own golf carts.

For more information regarding this event, please contact Ali Hawthorne at Alison.hawthorne@beasleyallen.com or by phone at 334-495-1330.  Thank you for your participation and support!
# Montgomery County Bar Association Young Lawyers
## Charity Clay Shoot

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<th>Sponsorship Level</th>
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<td><strong>Team Sponsor</strong></td>
<td><strong>$500</strong></td>
<td>* Complimentary team of 4 shooters with 100 clays per shooter&lt;br&gt;* Corporate signage at a designated clay shoot station&lt;br&gt;* Sponsor recognition at awards ceremony</td>
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<td><strong>Station Sponsor</strong></td>
<td><strong>$250</strong></td>
<td>* Corporate signage at a designated clay shoot station&lt;br&gt;* Option to have corporate representative at designated station&lt;br&gt;* Sponsor recognition at awards ceremony</td>
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<td><strong>Ceremony Sponsor Contribution</strong></td>
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<td>* Corporate signage at the pavilion during the awards ceremony and social&lt;br&gt;* Sponsor recognition at awards ceremony</td>
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**Name/Company:** ________________________________________________________________

**Level of Sponsorship:** __________________________________________________________

**If Ceremony Sponsor, please provide a description of the donation (i.e. beverages, food, coozies, goody-bags, etc.):** __________________________________________________________

**Email:** _________________________________  **Phone:** _______________________________

**Payment:** (select payment type)  ☐ Cash  ☐ Check

Please make checks payable to **Montgomery County Bar Association Young Lawyers Section**. Please remit payment to Brannan Reaves at PO Box 239, Montgomery, AL 36101 on or before **May 22, 2015**.