

JOURNAL

Newsletter of the Arlington County & Fairfax Bar Associations

October/November 2008

Special Edition

Arlington County & Fairfax Bar Associations
A Joint Project in Cooperation



Arlington County Courthouse



Fairfax County Courthouse

[Photo used with permission from the Fairfax County Courier]

Northern Virginia is comprised of about two million people. That seems an impressive number, but for members of the Arlington and Fairfax Bar Associations, county lines can blend. Travel on I-66 or Route 50 and it's not hard to see how those lines blur together. Often issues that concern one area affect the other.

One thing that is certain is members of both associations are committed to justice in the communities they serve. So much so that it is not a surprise to see members going above and beyond in both areas. For example, both bars continue to support the community through their foundations, both directly and indirectly, by reaching out to the underserved who may not otherwise have the means to obtain the help they need.

In the spirit of cooperation, the Arlington and Fairfax Bar Associations present their first joint newsletter. This, of course, isn't the first time both bars have worked together. For instance, the bars came together to work on the Comparative Jurisdiction CLE in 2002 and 2004 for the Circuit and General District Courts, and, recently at the successful Legislative Forum and Reception, which was co-sponsored by the Medical Society of Northern Virginia, the Arlington County Medical Society, and the Alexandria, Arlington, Fairfax, and Prince William Bar Associations. There were other joint efforts such as the *Pro Bono* Reception, and the Colors of Justice Reception held at George Mason University School of Law to promote diversity in the law.

In the future, both bars will continue to support each other's efforts to ensure quality while maintaining a voice in the legal profession. By working together, both bars can offer enhanced services that span across the region. Combining efforts will also mean that members will have access to a wider range of discounts on services and products. Lastly, events such as the Legislative Reception help members have a say in Richmond. This undoubtedly will not be the last time Arlington and Fairfax combine forces. ■

President's Column

by Julie H. Heiden

Why Do We Belong?

The Fairfax Bar Association has been around since the 1950s and is currently entering its 32nd year as an incorporated bar association. Fairfax County has changed tremendously over the last 50 years, as have the courthouse and the attorneys and judges who practice around and inside it. We are excited to report Judge Valentine has graciously agreed to capture the history of the Fairfax Bar Association through oral testimony of those members who helped form the principles of the FBA.



The delicate balance of a bar association involves satisfying not only the needs of those members who have been around for a while, but understanding the need to continue to grow the membership with newer/younger members. The addition of newer members ultimately results in greater benefits for all members, including those who have been long-standing participants.

Arthur C. Brooks, PhD, is a Professor of Business and Government Policy at Syracuse University's Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, and Whitman School of Management. Professor Brooks is known for his presentations and publications on connections among culture and economic life. Professor Brooks spoke at the ABA Conference for Bar Leaders on the relationship of "generation members" and associations. The generations break out as follows: GI Elders (born before 1925); Silent Generation (1925-1945); Baby Boomers (1946-1964); Gen-X (1965-1975); Gen-Y (1976-).

Sit in on any law firm partners' meeting these days and I'll bet you'll hear discussions pertaining to the hiring and retaining of attorneys from the "younger generations." In his presentation Professor Brooks demonstrated survey results which highlighted the different generations and their outlook toward, and their loyalty to, their employers. His discussion was particularly interesting because 64% of the Gen-X employees surveyed through his research indicated they would quit their jobs if they were not satisfied with it. However, Gen-X and Gen-Y employees who are members of associations are 42% less likely to quit than the same-aged non-association members. As Professor Brooks discussed, Gen-X and Gen-Y members did believe in the role of associations and believed there was value connected with belonging and remaining members of associations significant to their careers.

Professor Brooks opined that associations which provide the right benefits to members for all generations will prosper; provided the right benefits are offered. Professor Brooks related statistics that showed association member benefits are good for companies who want happy, effective employees, as association members are statistically more satisfied with their jobs than non-association members. Professor Brooks also reported on a survey of salaries which noted association members earn higher wages than non-members.

After having listened to this discussion I began to think about the benefits offered by the local bar associations and contemplated which member benefits were the "right benefits" to offer. My first thought was to write an article about how wonderful the local bars are and why people should be members because of the "right member benefits" we offer. I thought the idea was somewhat creative until I googled the phrase "associations—why we belong" and realized that just about every organization out there had beaten me to the punch.

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FAIRFAX BAR JOURNAL

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4110 Chain Bridge Rd., Suite 215
Fairfax, VA 22030
Telephone: 703-246-2740
Fax: 703-273-1274
Email: fba@fairfaxbar.org
<http://www.fairfaxbar.org>

Officers 2008/2009

President Julie H. Heiden 703-218-4410
President-Elect ... Corinne N. Lockett 703-324-2421
Vice-President David J. Gogal 703-691-1235
Past-President Daniel H. Rutenberg 703-790-1900
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Secretary Kelly Sweeney Hite 703-766-0732
Gen. Counsel ... Brett A. Kassabian 703-750-3622

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Executive Director/Editor

Yvonne C. McGhee • 703-246-2740
email: ymcghee@fairfaxbar.org

Communications Coordinator

Kristin Derlunas • 703-246-3721
email: kderlunas@fairfaxbar.org

Journal Advertising/Graphic Design

Ann Hill Thornton, RODANGraphics
301-338-2755 • email: rodangraf@aol.com

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in the opinion of the editor,
are inappropriate for the Journal.*

President's Column

by William Wetzonis



Arlington County Bar Association

1425 North Courthouse Road
Suite 1800, 1st Floor
Arlington, VA 22201
Telephone: 703-228-3390
Fax: 703-228-7360
Email: support@arlingtonbar.org
<http://www.arlingtonbar.org>

Officers 2008/2009

President William Wetzonis 703-228-4410
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Treasurer John Lynch 703-228-4410
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Executive Director

Dennis W. Cuppy
email: dennis.cuppy@arlingtonbar.org

Assistant Executive Director

Barbara Head
email: barbara.head@arlingtonbar.org

It is my pleasure to address the members of the Arlington County Bar Association and the Fairfax Bar Association. Earlier this year, members from the Executive Committees for both Associations met to discuss how we can work together to better serve our members. With that goal in mind, we agreed that notifying Arlington and Fairfax members of upcoming continuing legal education seminars in each respective jurisdiction would generate greater attendance to these seminars.

On September 18, 2008, there was a two-hour lunch seminar on Electronic Stored Information—Computer Data Issues in Litigation. The guest speakers were Jeffrey L. Rhodes, Esq., and Phillip A. Rodokanakis, CFE, EnCE, ACE. This program was held at the Walter T. McCarthy Law Library and attendees earned two CLE credits. On September 25, 2008, the Arlington Bar Association hosted a two-hour lunch seminar where members from the Virginia State Bar Council presented updates to constituents on current issues before the Virginia State Bar Council. This program was held at the Walter T. McCarthy Law Library and attendees earned two CLE credits.

In October 2008, there will be a CLE program addressing equitable distribution in domestic relations cases and an Ethics CLE program with guest speaker Karen Gould, Executive Director of the Virginia State Bar Council.

It is my hope that members from the Fairfax Bar Association and members from the Arlington County Bar Association will be interested in attending some of the upcoming events. It is a great opportunity to meet and socialize with fellow members from our respective jurisdictions. We can learn a great deal from each other and build new relationships, which will serve the best interests of our members. ■

Arlington County Bar Foundation

by Chuck Vasaly
Vice Chair, ACBF Board of Directors

The Arlington County Bar Foundation (ACBF) is a tax-exempt non-profit, founded in 1984 by members of the Arlington County Bar Association. Our primary founder was the late George Campbell who envisioned a foundation with a mission that would recognize, promote, and support individuals and organizations in our community that have made significant contributions to improve justice systems, expand public access to justice, or otherwise enhance the rule of law. Now, approaching our 25th year, the ACBF continues to embrace this mission with a variety of events and activities, including an active grant-giving program and—for the last 18 years—our annual William Winston Award luncheon.

The Winston Award is named after our former Chief Judge of the Arlington Circuit Court. Winners are selected by the ACBF Board of Directors in recognition of their public service work and accomplishments as these contributions relate to our Foundation's mission and purpose. Past winners have included members of the legal profession as well as advocates with other backgrounds. Recent selectees include attorneys Betty Thompson and the late Ken Smith, former Chief Judge Paul Sheridan of the Arlington Circuit Court, and former legislator Karen Darner. Last year's winner was Terri Lynch, the Director of Arlington's Agency on Aging.

Each spring, the ACBF provides grants, on a competitive basis, to a number of applicant organizations in our Northern Virginia region to help them continue advocacy projects and new initiatives which benefit our community and those in need. Recent grantees include the Legal Aid Justice Center, Legal Services of Northern Virginia, the Court Advocacy and Companionship Program run by Doorways for Women and Families, and Argus House in Arlington, which provides interim housing for young women in the juvenile justice system.

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Joint Legislative Forum & Reception



The Walter T. McCarthy Law Library, Arlington County





The Walter T. McCarthy Law Library

Public Access to Legal Resources for the Arlington Community

by Patricia Petroccione
Director of Library Services and Librarian

The Walter T. McCarthy Law Library is a public law library and 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. It is located on the first floor of the Arlington County Courthouse. The library has existed for more than 40 years as a legal research library with a particular emphasis on Virginia materials. It is one of the few legal resources available to the general public in Arlington which provides free access to local, state, and federal materials through commercial legal databases and the services of a professional law librarian. In 1970, it was named after Arlington Circuit Court Judge Walter T. McCarthy "...for his outstanding service to the Bar Association and the public." The memory of Judge McCarthy, who died in 1985 at the age of 87, is honored through the library's commitment to provide access to legal information and quality service for the benefit of the community.

The location of the library on the first floor of the courthouse provides optimal access to legal information for *pro se* litigants, as well as county residents, businesses, and others who are involved with the judicial system and legal matters. Because of its convenient location and welcoming atmosphere, the library is often used as a meeting place for lawyers, their colleagues, and clients. Lawyers are also able to quickly retrieve cases and prepare court documents as directed from the Bench while courts are in session.

The library collection features Virginia primary and secondary legal materials, including form books, jury instructions, and other references that provide examples of legal documents. The collection also includes federal case law and statutory materials. To maintain availability, resources are for reference only and do not circulate. Electronic resources include free access to LexisNexis and Westlaw Patron Access. The Internet and Microsoft Word are also available at public workstations. Patrons may print from the workstations. The cost is 20 cents per page and payment is by cash or check.

The library maintains a historical collection preserving Virginia Code volumes and supplements as they are replaced. Lawyers, or often law clerks, are able to research a Virginia Code section from the past through the present. The collection includes the Virginia Code of 1849, 1860, and other editions through the current 1950s codification. These are often helpful in property or estate cases, among others. The historical collection also includes Virginia Colonial decisions from the 1700s, and various Virginia treatises such as Harrison on Wills and Administration, first and second editions, and Gregory's Forms, third and fourth editions. An interesting book which truly emphasizes the physical changes that have occurred in the county is a Property Atlas of Arlington County, published by the Franklin Survey Company in 1935.

In addition to the above traditional library services we are involved in other activities. The library has held a public forum fund-raiser event for the past three years. This is an evening event which is open to the legal community and public to provide an open discussion on a topic of current interest. Topics in the past three years have included a "Celebration of the Stars and Stripes" with a review of the proposed flag desecration amendment; a debate in 2006 of the Marshall/Newman amendment (the marriage amendment) that was on the ballot that year; and most recently a discussion of current immigration issues featuring David Albo and Chuck Tievsky, moderated by Scott McCaffrey of the *Sun Gazette*. These evenings are set in a relaxed social atmosphere, including appetizers, wine, and other beverages. The library hopes to continue with similar public forums in the future.

Other plans for the future include partnering with the Arlington Bar Association to offer presentations on legal topics to the public in the library. We are communicating with the Arlington Public Library and the George Mason Law Library to find ways to better serve the information needs of the community.

You are invited to visit our facilities and take advantage of our services. The library is located at 1425 North Courthouse Road, Suite 1700 in Arlington. More information will soon be available at <http://landrec.arlingtonva.us>, where you will be able to access the library website. ■

PRO BONO PROGRAMS EXPAND ACROSS NORTHERN VIRGINIA



A new partnership between Northern Virginia *Pro Bono* Law Center (formerly known as the Fairfax Bar *Pro Bono* Program) and the Potomac Legal Aid Society, our local poverty law program funded by Legal Services Corporation, has resulted in an energetic venture with more opportunities for volunteer lawyers in Arlington and Fairfax, as well as throughout Northern Virginia.

New and exciting *pro bono* programs are being developed in order to provide and expand effective legal services in the areas of greatest need, including family law, consumer debt, and bankruptcy. Low-income clients facing serious and life-changing family law conflicts such as divorce, custody, child support and visitation often have nowhere to turn to seek information and legal representation. Likewise, those with limited incomes often face desperate financial circumstances. These new programs are designed to allow our local legal community to give back to others in ways that will help provide equal access to justice for the indigent, especially important in today's precarious economy.

In addition to providing legal advice, consultations and individual representation, volunteer attorneys will also be able to teach at legal clinics. The clients will be screened by the Potomac Legal Aid Society, and Northern Virginia *Pro Bono* Law Center will train and place the *pro bono* lawyers.

If you want to be a part of this important initiative, here is how you can help:

- You can teach either family law or consumer debt and bankruptcy. And, you can choose a convenient weekday evening and location that fits with your schedule.
- You can donate your time and expertise to help individual clients with consumer issues in exchange for a 3-credit MCLE training program with comprehensive materials.
- You can volunteer to handle a Chapter 7 bankruptcy case.
- You can represent a client in an uncontested divorce matter in exchange for a 3-hour MCLE "nuts and bolts" training, which will prepare you to handle these cases. You will also be provided with sample pleadings to keep and use for your own reference.

The expanded Northern Virginia *Pro Bono* Law Center looks forward to increasing the number of volunteer attorneys participating in the various programs, resulting in the unique benefits that only the local legal community can provide. Now is the perfect time to begin this rewarding work or continue to volunteer your time, skills, and energies. We will try to match you with both the type of work you prefer, as well as a geographic location that is convenient for you. Please contact **Arlene Beckerman** at **703-246-3779** or abeckerman@fairfaxbar.org to find out how you can become involved. ■



Appellate Rules Advisory Committee Report

Dated June 9, 2008

The Judicial Council of Virginia has directed that the report of the Appellate Rules Advisory Committee, dated June 9, 2008, be published for comment. The report, which is under final consideration but has not been formally approved by the Judicial Council or adopted by the Supreme Court, will clarify Virginia appellate practice and attempt to provide more uniformity between the rules applicable to the Supreme Court of Virginia and the Court of Appeals of Virginia.

Comments on the proposed rules may be directed to Steven Dalle Mura, Director of the Department of Legal Research, Office of the Executive Secretary, Supreme Court of Virginia, 100 North Ninth Street, Richmond, VA 23219. Comments on the proposed rule change related to Supreme Court Rule 5:9 (Notice of Appeal) must be received by **October 10, 2008**. Comments related to the remaining proposed rule changes must be received by **October 31, 2008**. The report of the appellate Rules Advisory Committee can be accessed via the Supreme Court website, at <http://www.courts.state.va.us/scv/home.html>, by scrolling down the page to the listing for the Amendments to the Rules of Court, or at the Clerk's Office of the Supreme Court of Virginia, 100 North Ninth Street, 5th Floor, Richmond.

The June 2008 report provides background on the Appellate Rules Advisory Committee, which was established in 2005 and chaired by Justice Donald W. Lemons, and includes a description of five task forces that were composed of Committee members, a calendar of meetings, and a summary of the Committee's work. The five task forces, (1) Procedure for Filing an Appeal; (2) Perfecting the Appeal; (3) Granted Cases; (4) Capital Cases, Habeas Corpus, and Actual Innocence; and (5) Original Jurisdiction/Miscellaneous, were given specific rules and subject areas to review and were asked to prepare suggested revisions, if any were deemed necessary.

While considering different aspects of the appellate process, all of the task forces shared the same set of general principles and goals. These included making the rules more fair, efficient, and user-friendly. Consideration was given to whether the Court should hold lawyers, instead of their clients, accountable for procedural mistakes. Major goals of the Committee were to harmonize the rules in the Court of Appeals with the rules in the Supreme Court, and to ensure that the rules reflect advances in technology and incorporate more electronic filing.

The work of the committee, ongoing from September 2005, was referred to the Editing Committee in May 2006. The Editing Committee was charged with incorporating the suggested revisions and creating new parts 5 and 5A that were clear, concise, and uniform. Its "Revised Version of the Rules" was presented to the full Committee in October 2007 and finalized in December 2007.

As reflected in the report of the Appellate Rules Advisory Committee, the substantive revision of many of the rules was accompanied by changes in the form and appearance of the rules to make them more user-friendly. For example, titles now more accurately reflect the information contained in the rules and headings have been incorporated to emphasize each paragraph. These non-substantive rule changes appear in Appendixes A and B of the report. ■

HOW LAWYERS ARE "MAKING A DIFFERENCE" IN OUR COMMUNITY

by Sonya M. Duchak, Esq.

With the goal in mind of creating innovative approaches to providing access to the law and law-related education for victims of domestic violence, the homeless, military veterans, children and students, the elderly, poor *pro se* litigants and just about every other facet of the Northern Virginia community, the Fairfax Law Foundation was founded in 1982. Today, over a quarter century later, the Foundation has numerous programs in place that have helped hundreds of thousands of people in our very large and diverse community. With the success of its "Making a Difference" Capital Campaign currently underway, these programs will continue to thrive and flourish.

One of the main programs supported by the Foundation is the Northern Virginia *Pro Bono* Law Center. The goal of the *Pro Bono* Law Center is to provide poverty and low-income individuals with equal access to justice. It has been estimated that there are over 80,000 low income residents in the Northern Virginia area who cannot afford the services of an attorney. The *Pro Bono* Law Center offers a variety of programs, including the Neighborhood Outreach Program where volunteer lawyers go to homeless shelters, community centers, and family resource centers to provide free legal advice and referral information in civil matters. Another program is the Family Legal Assistance Project that matches volunteer attorneys with low-income clients for full representation on certain family law issues. Volunteer attorneys also help eligible clients with legal problems in other areas of law, including housing, consumer or employment law. Wills on Wheels is another very popular program sponsored by the *Pro Bono* Law Center that provides documents such as wills, health care directives, and powers of attorney to low-income seniors. The *Pro Bono* Law Center also provides information to low-income individuals in the areas of bankruptcy matters and small business issues.

A very popular site at the Fairfax County Courthouse is the Public Law Library. The library is open to the public Monday through Friday with extended hours on Mondays and Thursdays. This is the only public law library in the area, and it is there to serve every individual in Northern Virginia. While many attorneys utilize the library, it has been especially designed to be user-friendly to the public with computer workstations and resources on common legal issues. The library serves approximately 60,000 persons annually.

The Foundation also sponsors many programs that are aimed at the youth of our community. The Court Tour program began in 1986 as part of the Virginia Court Docent Program. It gained a strong supporter in Chief Justice Harry L. Carrico of the Virginia Supreme Court. The first director of the Fairfax Court Docent Program was Jeannette Sheridan, who coordinated the program with the help of the Junior League from 1986 until 1995. In 1995, the Fairfax Bar Association began coordinating the Court Tour program, and has continued to do so ever since. While the Court Tour program initially serves the eighth grade students of Fairfax County Public Schools, it is also open to any school group from any community, including private, parochial, and home-schooled students. It has even sponsored tours for adult education students from local community colleges. About 1,500 students attend this program throughout the school year and have the opportunity to observe trials, meet judges, clerks, and other members of the public service community, and get an understanding of the local judicial system.

Another program for youth sponsored by the Foundation is the Devonshire Program. This program began in 1999 to provide volunteer attorney speakers to reach out to groups of at-risk teenagers who have already been charged with possession of alcohol or drugs at school, at a school event or on a field trip, or who have been found to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs in the community and have been recommended to the program by school administrators or guidance counselors. The program is designed to provide these teenagers with some insight into the legal consequences of getting involved with drugs or alcohol as a minor.

A unique program also sponsored by the Foundation is the Conciliation Program. Experienced litigators in both civil litigation and family law volunteer their services to help resolve motions and other preliminary disputes without charge to the parties in the case.

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BAR ASSOCIATION

Happy Hour!

On the **first Thursday of every month**, beginning on **November 6th**, from **5:30 to 7:30 PM**, the Fairfax Bar Association will host a monthly **Happy Hour** for all members, guests and staff. Members and guests of other area bar associations are welcome as well.

The gathering will take place at Vespucci's Italian Restaurant, 10579 Fairfax Boulevard, Fairfax (one block from the corner of Fairfax Boulevard and Route 123).

As a special feature, every month **one lawyer or judge musician** will appear as a guest artist, to be backed up by The Barristers, a band compiled from members of The Bobcats specially for this event. Any lawyer or judge who plays an instrument or sings (any musical genre) should contact the bar association office at 703-246-2740, so that we can line you up as a **guest "Barrister Performer"** for the December 4th or subsequent happy hours!

Come on out to socialize, enjoy **discounted hors d'oeuvres**, and hear your colleagues show off their extra-legal talents!

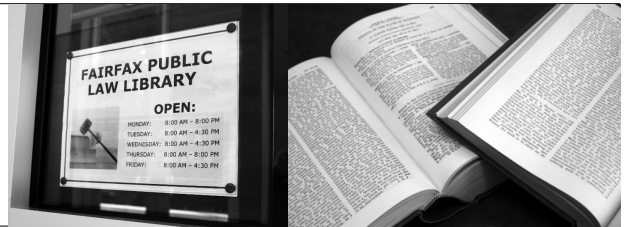
Vespucci's Italian Restaurant
10579 Fairfax Boulevard
Fairfax, Virginia 22030
703-272-8113

<http://www.vespuccirestaurant.com/home.htm>



Fairfax Public Law Library

by Tom Pulver, Library Director



We are pleased to share some news with you about the services and facilities we provide for members of the bar and the public.

Since its creation as a one-room library in the 1950s by the Fairfax Bar Association in the basement of the historic courthouse, the Fairfax Public Law Library moved in March 2008 from its second home on the third floor of the old wing of the Jennings Building to our third and final location—Room 115 on the first floor of the new Fairfax County Courthouse. The law library has been completely transformed into an all-new facility. This move gave us the opportunity to completely reorganize the collection, rework all of the former policies and procedures (still a work in progress), and carefully plan the furniture, seating, fixtures, shelving, overall layout and functionality of the library. The collection is in the final stages of being fully staffed, as well as significant upgrades to county-standardized public library computers and printers for public use.

The library currently serves approximately 60,000 customers each year, 70% of which are not legal professionals. In order to better serve the public, additional reference materials have been provided such as the *Nolo Press* self-help books, West's Nutshell Series, and materials written especially for non-attorneys. The library's Internet home page assists citizens researching Virginia law by hyperlinking them to legal information such as Virginia Court of Appeals opinions, Supreme Court of Virginia opinions, Fairfax County Court information, Virginia Administrative Code, Virginia Attorney General opinions, Virginia Code, and the Acts of the Virginia General Assembly.

Additionally, eight *pro se* computer workstations have been set up for customers to word-process their own court documents as well as having online access for researching divorce, immigration, employment, taxes, elder law, estate planning, and other legal areas of concern. Great efforts have been made by our library staff to access useful general legal forms and court information. Wireless networking is available for those who have a wireless card and prefer to use their own laptops.

Even though the law library print collection was cut drastically due to budget reductions in the recent past, the public access to legal information has increased significantly. We now have enhanced customer access to Westlaw, Lexis, Geromino Casefinder, HeinOnline, and many other new sources of legal information. A major improvement in the law library's service is the ability to provide customers with fill-in-the-blank legal forms, some of which also are

available in PDF formats. Where PDF forms are not available, we have greatly expanded the range of model forms and instructional materials available to the public and the practitioner when drafting their own court filings and documents. Some useful sources available for all include free access to the following websites:

www.1snv.org

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/courts/circuit and

www.courts.state.va.us.

A significant trend in having the most current, cost effective, and comprehensive legal information available is the shift to provide substantially more sources electronically. Electronic access expands the range and improves the currency of caselaw, statutes, and regulations and at the same time, greatly expands what the public can have free and immediate access to. A sizeable number of these sources are only available to the public in a law library like ours. With our current public access and enhanced electronic resources, every library user can have access to state and federal caselaw, statutes, attorney general opinions, and a large percentage of the major law digests jurisprudences, legal periodicals, and treatises used in American law practice today.

The eight workstations may be used to access online databases for legal materials such as Virginia case and statutory law, Fairfax County and City codes, and numerous legal and litigation sources. All library services are free, except for per-page printing, copying, and faxing costs. As a non-lending institution, there is no need for a library card.

Our library hours have been expanded on Mondays and Thursdays, so we are open from 8:00 AM-8:00 PM; regular hours of 8:00 AM-4:30 PM continue for Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Fairfax Bar Association members have the additional benefit of evening and weekend after-hours access. Any bar member also may participate by serving on the Law Library Committee. Committee members gain insight into the inner workings of the law library and provide us with valuable, professional input regarding the collection, technology, personnel, and budget issues. In addition to this service, participants can gain help from our trained legal staff in the use of print and electronic resources and be guided to be kept current on some of the latest trends and changes within specific practice areas. The committee usually has luncheon meetings on the fourth Monday of the month in the new Library Conference Room. If you would like to become a committee member or would like to find out when the next meeting will be held, please call the Fairfax Bar Association at 703-246-2740. ►

We are very pleased to invite the community to our new facility. We hope the public takes full advantage of all the wonderful resources we have which are not available at any other single location in Fairfax County.

The mission of our law library is to provide meaningful access to legal information and to assist judges, lawyers, law clerks, court employees, and the general public in their research efforts. We welcome you to use our resources for your legal research needs. For more information about the law library, call 703-246-2170 or email:

liblawlibrary@fairfaxcounty.gov

LIBRARY STAFF:

Tom Pulver
Library Director
M.L.S. Catholic University

Missy Scheeren
Associate Librarian
J.D. George Washington University

Cat Butler
Associate Librarian
J.D. George Mason University

Randy Beckford
Library Office Administrator
B.A. Dickenson College

The Fairfax Public Law Library is considering the acquisition of new electronic and print materials that would be valuable to our customers both professional and *pro se*. If you have any specific suggestions, please contact the Director, Tom Pulver, at:

thomas.pulver@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-246-2175

SAVE THE DATE

Comparative Jurisdiction CLE

Friday, May 8, 2009

2:00 - 5:00 PM - Program

5:00 - 6:00 PM - Reception

Fairfax County Government Center

3 MCLE Credits *Pending*

Presented by the Alexandria Bar, Arlington County Bar, Fairfax Bar and Prince William County Bar Associations.

FAIRFAX CIRCUIT COURT COPY POLICY

COPY FEES: (Assessed pursuant to the Code of Virginia)

• Per Page	=	\$.50	§ 17.1-275(8)
• Per Certification	=	\$2.00	§ 17.1-275(9)
• Per Triple Seal	=	\$2.50	§ 17.1-275(9)

EXCEPTION(S):

- FINAL ORDERS

Each party OR attorney for each party is entitled to one (1) FREE copy of the FINAL ORDER pursuant to § 17.1-275(26)

AGENCIES NOT ASSESSED FEES FOR COPIES:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alcohol Safety Action Program - Virginia (VASAP)• Assistant Attorney General Office - Virginia• Department of Tax Administration - DTA/Real Estate Division• Child Support Enforcement Division• Commonwealth Attorney - Virginia• Court Appointed Attorneys• Courts - Virginia• Division of Motor Vehicles – Virginia (DMV) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• GIS & Mapping Services Branch• Legal aid• Police Department - Virginia• Probation & Parole - Virginia• Public Defender's Office - Virginia• Virginia Department of Transportation• Virginia State Bar Association• IRS |
|---|---|

NOTE:

- Copies of Orders from Friday Motions Day are not exempt from copy fees.
- Any party that is not on this list must write a letter to the Clerk of the Court requesting that they not be charged for copies in accordance with a specific Virginia statute.

Young Lawyers Section Report

The Young Lawyers Section (YLS) is off to an active start this year. From running races to happy hours, this fall promises to be a fun-filled and busy time for the YLS.

Members of the Board are busy planning the First Annual Stitt Cup, scheduled for October 18, 2008 at Great Falls Grange. Judge David T. Stitt was a fixture at our Annual Lawyerpalooza and in his honor, we have decided to put together a memorial volleyball tournament and picnic. The event will consist of live music from Monk Chang Unit, featuring the musical talents of Michael Chang of Blankenship & Keith, catered barbecue, and of course, what we hope will be a spirited volleyball tournament. The Board is currently raising money to cover the costs of the event and all proceeds will be donated to the Fairfax Law Foundation pursuant to the request of the Stitt family. For more information on the Stitt Cup, please contact Michelle Hess at michelle.hess@hklaw.com.

On Saturday, September 6, 2008, the FBA running team came in 10th out of 25 teams (in the non-law enforcement division) at the Arlington Police/Fire/Sheriff 9-11 Memorial 5K. Thanks to Hanna, the weather was touch and go until the start. If you are interested in joining the team in future running events, please contact Erin Sylvester at erin.sylvester@fairfaxcounty.gov for more information.

The YLS's first happy hour took place at Coyote Grill where a crowd gathered to enjoy drink specials and the restaurant's comfortable patio seating. The YLS will continue to alternate happy hour locations between Fairfax City and Tysons Corner with October's happy hour scheduled for **October 28, 2008** in Fairfax. Stay tuned to the weekly email blasts for the latest information on happy hour locations.

Also on the agenda this fall is the YLS's New Attorney Orientation. The Orientation is a great opportunity for newly admitted members of the bar to get a behind-the-scenes look at the Fairfax County Judicial Center. Judges and staff members from all three courts share important do's and don'ts for new attorneys in an event that should not be missed.

The Young Lawyers Section will shortly launch its presence on Facebook. If you already have a Facebook account, request to join the Fairfax Bar Association Young Lawyers Section. By signing up, you will receive regular updates regarding upcoming events, information about past events

and activities that have ready access to other members of the section.

If you are interested in assisting the Board with planning any of our upcoming events, please contact Christie Leary at cal@greenspunlaw.com.

And, as always, stay tuned to the weekly blasts for more information on these and other YLS events. ■

HOW LAWYERS ARE "MAKING A DIFFERENCE"...

continued from page 7

Many of the recipients of these services are *pro se* parties. The Conciliation Program is offered in both the Juvenile and Domestic Relations General District Court and the Circuit Court. Any attorney or party can request conciliation on Motions Day or prior to Motions Day. The purpose of the program is to facilitate the disposition of cases and reduce the cost of litigation by helping to resolve procedural motions and interim matrimonial disputes that tend to burden the system. More than 400 motions have been resolved through conciliation on an annual basis.

All of the programs offered by the Fairfax Law Foundation are designed to serve the entire Northern Virginia Community. The Foundation's goal is to reach out to all segments of our growing population and meet the needs of all neighborhoods in and around the Northern Virginia area. We appreciate the support and dedication that members of our community have given us, and especially the attorneys, judges, and public servants who have devoted their time to our programs. ■

Arlington County Bar Foundation

continued from page 3

ACBF also provides funding each year to the Walter T. McCarthy Law Library in the Arlington Courthouse to help ensure public access to the law. In addition, ACBF contributes funds to support the annual *pro bono* reception and recognition program for Northern Virginia Lawyers, which is a joint program of the Arlington, Fairfax, and Alexandria Bar Associations. ■

Why Do We Belong?

continued from page 2

The Arizona Education Association reports their members should belong because they believe that together they can build better schools for all of our children. The members of the Washington Economic Development Associations say their members should belong because they are leaders in the field and have an impact on public policy and access to relevant information. The Southland Farmers' Market suggests their members should belong because, among other reasons, "with EPA, OSHA, IRS and other federal and state regulatory bodies issuing edicts all of the time, it would be impossible for you alone to be current on all of the regulations that are being imposed on our highly regulated industry." And my personal favorite is the Association of Wisconsin Snowmobile Clubs (AWSC). You should belong to the AWSC because they provide the finest snowmobile trail system in the country with over 25,000 miles of self-funded groomed trails!

So why do we belong to the local bar associations? We belong because through our membership we have the opportunity to network with our peers, we are able to develop and share ideas with one another, we have greater access to resources and knowledge, we are able to learn from one another, we are provided with the opportunity to serve, we are provided with the opportunity to advance and improve the practice of law, we are provided with a sense of community, and we have a forum of friends and colleagues who are similarly determined to make the most of our own potential as legal professionals.

As we have the opportunity to review Judge Valentine's history of the FBA, I believe we will see that although the area around us has transformed, those fundamental principles are still the essence of being a member of the local bar association. ■

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Joint Announcement by JON KATZ and JAY MARKS: After ten years together as law partners at MARKS & KATZ, LLC, Jon Katz and Jay Marks have started their separate law firms in Silver Spring, MD, focusing respectively on criminal defense and immigration law. For more information, contact: Jon Katz 301-495-7755, jon@katzjustice.com; or Jay Marks 301-578-4444, jay@marksjustice.com.

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Legislative Forum & Reception Recap

by Alissa Hudson, Executive Director of the Prince William County Bar Association

On September 17, approximately 160 members of the Northern Virginia Legal and Medical communities gathered for a Legislative Forum & Reception at the Fairview Park Marriott. Although the Fairfax Bar Association and the Medical Society of Northern Virginia had sponsored a similar event last year, this year's event was an even greater collaborative effort as it also included the Alexandria, Arlington, and Prince William County Bar Associations, and the Medical Society of Arlington County.

The event began with a reception which provided opportunities for the legislators in attendance to network with their constituents, and for members of the legal and medical communities to network with their colleagues. It then moved to the forum portion of the evening, where a panel of Virginia Democratic and Republican legislators addressed attendees on topics related to immigration, transportation, health care, and working across party lines. The panel members were: Delegate David Marsden (D), Delegate David B. Albo (R), Senator Patricia S. Ticer (D), and Senator Kenneth T. Cuccinelli, II (R). U.S. Congressional hopeful Keith S. Fimian (R) also participated on the panel. The moderator for the evening, Bill Myers, Staff Writer with the *D.C. Examiner*, gave each of the panelists ten minutes in which to provide their opening remarks on the topics selected, and then asked the panel members specific questions which were submitted by attendees.

Those in attendance heard frank responses from panel members on immigration issues related to border control, access to low cost labor, employer responsibilities in hiring illegal aliens, federal preemptions to state laws, and access to public education. On the topic of health care, discussions were focused on developing incentives for doctors to enter the field as primary care physicians in non-urban settings, citing the difficulty in balancing the high cost of malpractice insurance with the high cost of living. Bipartisan mental health reforms enacted in the 2008 session were also applauded as necessary in light of the Virginia Tech killings; this was the only significant mention of "working across the aisles." And on the topic of transportation, the issue was funding, and ways to either generate additional funds or adjust the allocation of existing funding to cover more transportation costs.

Feedback from the legislators who served on the panel and those who simply attended the event was positive. We have also received positive feedback from the local legal community.

Thank you to the members of the Bench and Bar across the Northern Virginia area and to the members of the medical community for coming together to host this event and for supporting it with their presence.

Special thanks to the Event Sponsors, we could not have done this without your help!

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