

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 10

Membership Meeting and CLE
at the University Club
12:00 pm

March 11

JYL Legal Beagle 5k Run/Walk
Regions Drive-Thru Parking Lot
Jacksonian Plaza
8:15am

April

JYL Social
No Luncheon Meeting

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JYL Golf Tournament
Team Entry Form

Clean the Rust Off Your Nine Iron!

The annual JYL Golf Tournament is on the horizon. It will take place on June 29, 2006, at Patrick Farms Golf Club, beginning with a shotgun start at 1:00 after a buffet lunch. As usual, the tournament will benefit the Boys & Girls Club of Metro Jackson.

This year's tournament promises to be bigger and better than any before. Henjum Goucher has already agreed to sponsor this year's buffet lunch and to provide the ice cold beverages for the day. Also, Fowler Buick has agreed to sponsor the hole-in-one competitions for this year. In addition to the opportunity to win a brand new ride, many other great prizes will be available.

The golf tournament is always a great event for lawyers and summer clerks, so make sure you get your teams signed up soon. Slots are limited and will be reserved on a first come, first served basis. Entry fees are \$80.00 per individual, \$320.00 for a four man team. We also need local firms and businesses to sponsor holes. This is a great opportunity for law firms to do a little marketing as well as contributing to a worthy cause, so please contact any of the individuals below (before they contact you) to confirm that your firm will be sponsoring this year.



Volunteers for the tournament are also needed.

Even if you are not a golfer, the tournament is a great way to spend an afternoon. If you would like to volunteer or if you need any further information, please e-mail Jim McNamara (jim.mcnamara@arlaw.com), Chair of the JYL Philanthropy Committee, Melody McAnally (mmcanally@bradleyarant.com), or Alex Purvis (apurvis@bradleyarant.com). The entry form is attached and sponsorship opportunities will be circulated soon. We look forward to seeing you on June 29!

By Alex Purvis

JYL Members Sling Sauce for Stewpot

On Saturday, May 20, JYL will provide and serve the lunch meal at Stewpot. Volunteers are still badly needed! Please contact Melody McAnally at mmcanally@bradleyarant.com if you are available to participate.

Those members who participated on Sunday, March 19, had a great time as JYL served a custom-made barbecue lunch. Dozens of pounds of on-the-bone pork the day were cooked-up, and pulled and freshly sauced on the premises.

Community Outreach Committee Chair Seth Hunter, Alex Purvis, David McCarty, Melody McAnally, Corey Hinshaw, Rick McKnight and Mary Clay Morgan took part as volunteers.

"It is so rewarding working to help those in need in Jackson," said Mary Clay. "I am proud that JYL provides these opportunities to work in our community."

The barbecue lunch at Stewpot was brainstormed and coordinated by Seth Hunter. *By David McCarty*

New Officers and Directors Take Office

June marks the beginning of the JYL 2006-07 term with five officers rolling off the JYL board of directors and five newly elected officers replacing them.

Departing the JYL board this year are past-president Amanda Jones, secretary Kyle Fulcher, treasurer Justin Matheny, and directors Krisi Allen and Chris Walker.

As a result, current president Patrick McCraney will become past president, while Trey Bourn will take the reins as president, and David Pharr will join the board as president-elect.

Other new officers include secretary Denise Wesley, treasurer Missy Rose, and directors Mary Clay Morgan and Lawrence Coco. Rounding out the board will be directors Melody McAnally and Stewart Lee, who will be entering their second year of their two-year terms on the board.

Amanda Jones will ride off in the sunset after a distinguished tenure of service with JYL. "Amanda has been a leader in JYL since I started practicing law three years ago," current director Melody McAnally said. "She is always at the membership meetings, socials, and community projects. She has established the standard for leadership and has an unwavering commitment to JYL. She sets an impressive example for me to follow."

McCraney's presidential term has also set a high standard for those following him. In addition to his

unwavering commitment to the organization, under his leadership JYL has had a significant increase in new members, due in large part to the successful socials and impressive speakers at meetings. McCraney also implemented the JYL CLE again for the first time in several years. In addition, this year's Legal Beagle was the most successful yet, both as to the number of participating runners and as to the amount of money collected.

Fulcher leaves the board after two years: the first as treasurer and the second as secretary. Allen also leaves after her two-year commitment as director. Both contributed to the incredible growth of JYL over the last two years and should be commended.

Although Matheny leaves after only one year on the board, he has definitely left his mark. "Justin is the greatest treasurer because he cautions against spending any of the money, which is exactly what JYL needs in a treasurer!" McAnally said.

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Trey Bourn
2006-07 JYL President

JYL OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

Patrick McCraney, President
patrick@realtyclosing.net

Kyle Fulcher, Secretary

Justin Matheny, Treasurer
mathenyj@phelps.com

Trey Bourn, President-Elect
treymbourn@butlersnow.com

Amanda Jones, Past President
ajones@bradleyarant.com

Stewart Lee, Director
slee@brunini.com

Krisi Allen Lee, Director
klee@watkinseager.com

Melody McAnally, Director
mmcanally@bradleyarant.com

Chris Walker, Director
cwalker@brunini.com

If you are 37 or younger, or have practiced law fewer than 3 years, you are eligible for membership in JYL

MEMBERSHIP & DUES

Membership in Jackson Young Lawyers is open to any duly licensed member of the Mississippi Bar who is a resident of the greater Jackson, Mississippi metropolitan area and is either 37 years of age or younger, or has been a member of the Mississippi Bar for less than three years.

The annual membership dues for JYL are \$100 and are billed once a year to each member. (First year member-

ship dues are waived for federal, state, and local government employees.) The dues cover JYL monthly luncheons, newsletters, and various social functions during the year.

To become a member of JYL, complete the membership application, available on Page 4. Your name will be placed on the membership roster and you will receive notices informing you of upcoming JYL events.

JYL Luncheon Meetings Feature Prominent Guests

In March, JYL hosted a lunchtime CLE program for its members. Speakers included United States District Judge Tom S. Lee, United States Magistrate Judge Jerry A. Davis, and United States District Clerk J.T. Noblin. Mr. Noblin gave an overview of the electronic filing system, discussed a few common issues that have arisen, introduced us to the primary contact for user support, and provided some helpful materials. Both Judge Davis and Judge Lee discussed the basics of advocacy in district court. Judge Davis recommended a couple of resources to aid us in pre-trial and trial advocacy, and specifically advised us to be concise and to avoid ad hominem attacks. Among other things, Judge Lee discussed the changing personnel at the Court with several Judges taking senior status. He also told us that there has been a sharp decrease in the number of removed cases in recent months.

The program was organized by Lawrence Coco. We appreciate the work he put into it and thank the speakers for sharing their valuable time with us.

In May, our speaker will be John Lawrence, President of Downtown Jackson Partners. Mr. Lawrence was involved in the re-development of downtown Memphis before he moved to Jackson to take his current position. Downtown Jackson Partners is an organization founded by downtown property owners that has become a significant player in the budding re-development of downtown Jackson under Lawrence's leadership. We look forward to his presentation.



By David Pharr

Hinds County Circuit Judge Swan Yerger recently took the time to answer a few questions about how a JYL member should practice in his Court and others.

The Honorable W. Swan Yerger is the Chief Judge of the Hinds County Circuit Court, where he has served since 1997. He holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Mississippi in history, with a minor in English. He is a graduate of the University of Virginia Law School and has been a member of the Mississippi Bar since 1958.

JYL: What is the best way for young lawyers to conduct themselves while in your courtroom or chambers?

Judge Yerger: Acting professionally, with courtesy and respect for the Court, any witnesses and the young lawyer's opposing attorney(s). Such conduct leaves a good impression on the Court and on the opposing

attorney(s), and over the years, it will add to the young lawyer's professional reputation.

JYL: What are some common mistakes that young lawyers make, and how can one avoid them?

Judge Yerger: Sometimes, lacking confidence in performing the young lawyer's role in the case. There is no better advice in this regard that I can give except to "Be Prepared," like the Boy Scout motto. The young lawyer needs to know the facts of the case, the issues and the law. The young lawyer also needs to have a strong belief in his case and also to be able to present it to a jury and/or the Court in a convincing manner via a brief or verbally.

JYL: What are some things that a young lawyer must never do?

Judge Yerger: The young lawyer must never show disrespect to the Court or engage in a personal

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QUESTIONS

Judge Swan Yerger

Social Hits a Home Run at Braves Game!

On Thursday, April 13th, members and guests of JYL came out to Trustmark Park to watch the Mississippi Braves play the Mobile Baybears. The event marked the second annual JYL Night at the Ballpark.

Though the Braves ultimately succumbed to the Baybears, it was an exciting game and the event gave young lawyers the opportunity to socialize on the first base party deck at the new stadium in Pearl. Attendees ate hot dogs and hamburgers as they enjoyed the beautiful weather and visited with fellow JYL members. Alexandra Markov said, "I always like coming to JYL social events because it gives me an opportunity to catch up with other lawyers I haven't seen in a while."

Look for details coming soon about the JYL social in June.



Members enjoy the Mississippi Braves game at Trustmark Park! Above: Andy Rhea, Kevin Frye, Brandon Jolly, Robert Ireland, Jacob Stutzman, Erica Skelton; Bottom: Ann Russell, Anna Ward, Laura Langley, Morton.



JYL Membership Application

Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Method of Payment _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

Employer _____

Committees or Activities of Interest _____

Law School _____ Date of Graduation _____

Check, made payable to Jackson Young Lawyers

Please bill me for the total amount

Mail Check for \$100 to: Jackson Young Lawyers Association ■ Post Office Box 22842 ■ Jackson, MS 39225-2842

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Legal Beagle Makes Great Strides

This year's Legal Beagle 5k was another great success! The Seventh Annual Jackson Young Lawyers Legal Beagle 5k was held on Saturday, March 11, 2006. Approximately 400 individuals participated in this year's event. The overall men and women winners from this year's Legal Beagle 5k were Brian Pope and Kristi Hall with outstanding times of 15:16 and 20:07, respectively.

This year's race was particularly special as it was dedicated to the memory of Jackson Police Officer Thomas Catchings. Officer Catchings assisted JYL with traffic control during the 2005 Legal Beagle. He was killed in the line of duty only five days later. At the conclusion of the race, JYL presented Officer Catchings's wife, Yolanda, and family with a plaque in his memory.

This year's race raised over \$3,500 for the Mississippi Volunteer Lawyers Project of The Mississippi Bar, which places pro bono, non-criminal matters for underprivileged Mississippians with volunteer lawyers. Shirley Williams, of the Mississippi Volunteer Lawyers Project, will be presented with the check at the JYL membership meeting on Friday, May 19, 2006.

JYL would like to extend its thanks to all participants and volunteers, the Mississippi Track Club, and the following sponsors:

Without the help and support of the listed individuals and entities, this year's Legal Beagle would not have been such a tremendous success. We look forward to another successful event next year and hope to see everybody there.

By Jim McNamara

Continued from Page 3: 4 Questions for Judge Swan Yerger

attack on his opposing attorney. The young lawyer should never lose his temper in the Courtroom or in Chambers. Should an opposing lawyer lose his temper or make a personal attack, the young lawyer should not respond in a like manner, but rather remain calm and permit the judge to take whatever action is indicated. The young lawyer should never engage in "Rambo" tactics during depositions or otherwise. The young lawyer should never violate the Rules of Professional Conduct nor tolerate those who do.

JYL: You have nearly fifty years of legal experience under your belt. What is your advice to a person who is just beginning his or her legal career?

Judge Yerger: The young lawyer should practice law with honor and integrity from the beginning to the end of his or her legal career. A good reputation, both personally and professionally, has to be earned by the young lawyer. Dedication to one's area of the law practice, and to the legal

profession in general, should be further goals. Professional education and experience are essential to a successful legal practice. The young lawyer should work hard and strive to achieve the highest level within his or her capability in the chosen field of law. If the young lawyer is in litigation, he or she should not only become very familiar with the Rules of Civil Procedure and the Rules of Evidence, but also the Uniform Rules of Circuit and County Practice. In addition, the young lawyer should be a good observer of experienced and skilled litigators, and, also, he or she should seek as many opportunities as possible to prepare and argue motions, conduct depositions, sit "second chair" in trials, and/or otherwise observe trials, and, of course, to eventually serve as lead counsel. If available, the young lawyer would benefit by participating in a trial practice seminar.

Fellowship with the young lawyer's professional contemporaries, and others in the legal profession, is also of importance. Early in the young lawyer's career, he or she should volunteer to serve the profession in committee work benefiting the public and the profession.

The words "My word is my bond" should be a guidepost for all young lawyers. Being trustworthy is an essential ingredient of a good reputation.

New Officers and Directors Take Office - Continued from Page 2

"Not only is he conservative with JYL's money, but he is always suggesting ways to earn a little more."

More than ably replacing Matheny will be Rose, who will bring her two years as social chairperson to the table. Under Rose, JYL has had more socials than ever, including new stalwart "traditions," such as the Mississippi Braves "Party Deck" event and a social honoring the newly sworn in members of the Bar.

"The social events sponsored by JYL are what bring together JYL members of all walks of life, and Missy has fantastically brought us all together at fun, exciting events all year," McAnally said. "She's left some big shoes to fill."

Pharr, who has been active in JYL since graduating law school, has also

been successful in every JYL position he has held. Previously, Pharr has served on the board as secretary and director. This past year he did a fantastic job as speakers' chairperson, landing such "heavyweights" as Leland Speed, Malcolm White, and Dr. Dolphus Weary. Undoubtedly, Pharr will demonstrate the same enthusiasm and work ethic as president-elect.

Among the new board, departing Amanda Jones points out what Wesley and Morgan will contribute.

"The words that immediately come to my mind for [Wesley and Morgan] are leadership and commitment," said Jones. "[Wesley] has come to just about every event JYL has had for three years. No kidding. We are fortunate to have her on the board now to contribute to the

direction of the organization.

"[Morgan] headed up the pro bono committee for two years [and] fostered the assignment of pro bono cases from MVLP to young lawyers."

McAnally echoed Jones in her sentiments toward Morgan. "Mary Clay has been a stalwart advocate for pro bono work in JYL," she said. "Because of her hard work and dedication to the pro bono committee, many needy citizens in Metro Jackson have had access to an attorney that they otherwise would not have had. Her community spirit has kept the pro bono committee active for the past two years. I look forward to seeing Mary Clay put the same dedication and community spirit into the JYL Executive Committee."

By Trey Bourn

JYL COMMITTEE CHAIRS

PHILANTHROPIC

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