

JYL

JACKSON YOUNG LAWYERS

MARCH 2013

President's Corner

2013 has gotten off to a great start for JYL. On January 5, for the sixth consecutive year, JYL members, through the Community Service Committee, cheered on runners and handed out water and Gatorade at the 2013 Mississippi Blues Marathon. Many thanks to all who volunteered and braved the cold January temperatures for this annual event.

On January 25, Mississippi State Representative Mark Baker spoke to a packed house at Hal & Mal's at the first membership meeting of the New Year. Representative Baker discussed the 2013 Legislative agenda and his role as Chair of the Judiciary A Committee. Throughout his remarks, he emphasized how young attorneys should be aware of pending legislation and its potential impact on their clients and practice areas.

For those of us who have had our fill of this very soggy and stormy winter, spring is on the way and more JYL activities will be available. First up: The annual Legal Beagle 5K Walk/Run, which was held Saturday, March 9. It was a great day for the race with wonderful weather and a record-breaking number of participants in the Legal Beagle event.

All proceeds from the event benefit the Mississippi Volunteer Lawyers Project (MVLV). As the General Counsel of MVLV, I can assure you the funds we receive from the Legal Beagle are critical in helping us provide much-needed legal services to clients throughout the Greater Jackson Metro area. I hope many of you were in your sneakers and Legal Beagle long-sleeves at the March 9 event.

On March 22, we will have another membership meeting at Hal & Mal's. Our speaker for this membership meeting is Justice Randy Pierce, Associate Justice of the Mississippi Supreme Court. He will address "Effective Oral Argument Techniques," which should be a very interesting and beneficial presentation. We are excited and fortunate to have Justice Pierce as our next speaker.

Attendance at the memberships meetings has been fantastic this year. Make plans to attend this one, too. Our final membership meeting will be on May 31 and will feature Professor Donald Campbell from Mississippi College School of Law. Professor Campbell will offer an ethics-hour presentation at that meeting. Mark your calendars - we all know how precious an ethics hour can be!

As part of our community outreach efforts, the Outreach Projects Committee will award the Community Outreach Grant and our LSAT Scholarship this spring. Stay tuned for future announcements regarding these special JYL projects. Finally, you will be helping us to elect a new Executive Board in a few weeks. We are pleased to present an impressive slate of candidates, all of whom have been very involved in JYL's work and committed to its mission. Be on the lookout for the email announcing the start of our electronic election and be sure to vote as soon as you receive it!

I am proud of everything we've accomplished and will accomplish this year. Still, there are always more ways to make an impact. If you have ideas of ways JYL can get involved in the Metro community, please let me know or contact another JYL Board member. We're always looking for ways to expand our reach and get our members involved. We appreciate your support and all you do to keep JYL going strong! Please consult our web and Facebook pages for regular updates on our activities. Many thanks to Mississippi College 2L, Dixie Pond, for keeping our sites up-to-date.

by Tiffany Graves

Ms. Graves is the Executive Director and General Counsel of Mississippi Volunteer Lawyers Project and the current President of JYL.



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Social Committee Update and Upcoming Events:

First, we would like to thank everyone who participated in the Toys for Tots event we co-hosted with Capital Area Bar Association (CABA) in December. Between the toys and monetary funds collected, we were able to give Toys for Tots two huge boxes stuffed with toys for less fortunate children in the Jackson area.



It's been hard to tell lately, but Spring is well on its way! That means it's time for yet another social event. On Thursday, March 28, 2013, JYL's Social Committee will host a Spring Social on the patio at Sal & Mookies on 565 Taylor Street in Fondren from 5:15pm to 8:15pm. We might not get a Spring Break anymore, but we can still celebrate warm weather and upcoming vacations from work!! There will be pizza and drinks, so please take a break from your desk and join us on the 28th!

Save the Date: On April 25, 2012, the Social Committee will be co-hosting a social with CABA at Burgers & Blues. If you have any questions, feel free to contact your social committee co-chairs, Stacey Buchanan and Catoria Martin.

JYL Toys for Tots



PLEASE VOTE IN THE UPCOMING 2013 JACKSON YOUNG LAWYERS ASSOCIATION'S ELECTIONS

Candidates for JYL President

Lindsay Thomas

J. Spencer Young, Jr.

Candidates for JYL Secretary

Roslyn Griffin

Crystal L. Welch

Candidates for JYL Treasurer

Nakimuli O. Davis

Betsy Turley

Candidates for JYL Director

John H. Dollarhide

Alexander Martin

Candidates for JYL Director

Graham Carner

Chanda Roby

JYL MEMBERSHIP

*If you are 37 or younger, or
have practiced law for fewer
than three years in the Jackson
Metro area, you are eligible
for JYL membership!!!!*

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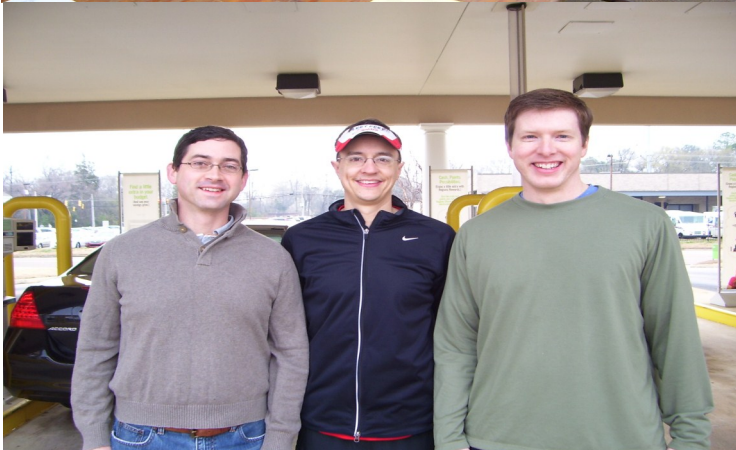
JYL Hosts its Sixth Annual Legal Beagle 5K Walk/Run
Legal Beagle Race Cake



At the starting line waiting for the horn.



Race Day Registration



Michael Bentley, Leigh Vernon & Brad Moody
JYL Member Volunteers for Legal Beagle's 5kRun/Walk.

RUNNERS AND WALKERS ALIKE
ENJOYED THE WARMER WEATHER

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JYL LEGAL BEAGLE RACE DAY 2013



JYL Members Respond to Hurricane Sandy



On October 29, 2012, Hurricane Sandy hit the United States' Eastern seaboard. It was the largest Atlantic tropical system on record. Twenty-four states were affected by the storm. However, the most severe damage occurred in New Jersey and New York. Thousands of homes flooded, millions lost power and more than one hundred people died.

JYL members immediately responded to the call for help by donating more than \$170.00 to the American Red Cross. The American Red Cross is a non-profit organization that, among other things, shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters. It relies on volunteers and public generosity to support its mission. To date, the Red Cross has distributed more than 6.7 million in relief to the victims of Hurricane Sandy. Our donation helped to provide food, shelter and relief supplies to the thousands of people affected by the storm.

The call for help is not over. The American Red Cross continues to seek assistance for its Hurricane Sandy relief efforts. For information on how you can help, please visit redcross.org.



JYL Members Brave the Cold Rain at the 2013 MISSISSIPPI Blues Marathon



JYL Members hand out water and Gatorade to marathon participants.

For almost five hours on a very cold and rainy Saturday, January 5, 2013, JYL members braved the weather to cheer on and hand out water and Gatorade to the runners and walkers in the Jackson, Mississippi's Sixth Annual Blues Marathon & Half-Marathon.

This year, over 3,000 runners of all ages and skill-levels participated in the race. The race has gained such notoriety that many of the participants travel from all across the country to run in the race. Indeed, the Mississippi Blues Marathon was selected as the 2013 Southern Region Championship Marathon by the Road Runners Club of America.

The marathon is not solely for competition. The race began as way to honor Mississippi's blues musicians, many of whom have made history over the years, by donating proceeds to the Mississippi Blues Commission. One unique aspect of the race is that blues musicians perform at various mile-markers. There are also a number of events leading up to race day; and, on race night there is the annual Blues Crawl - where the trolley takes runners through some of Jackson's favorite locations to enjoy blues & food. Some of the stops on the "crawl" include Hal & Mal's, Martin's, F. Jones Corner, The Penguin, and Underground 119.

Even with all of the fun events scheduled around race day, the most notorious feedback JYL received from the runners was that the volunteers were wonderful, friendly, and very positive! Through the Community Service Committee, the Jackson Young Lawyers have volunteered as greeters for the race each year since its inception in 2008. And 2013 was no different! JYL members were set up at mile-marker 20 and cheered on runners from 9:00am until the last runner passed the station. In fact, the last runner to pass the JYL station thanked JYL for being there and commented that often in races no one is there to cheer the last runner on. Many thanks to Elissa Johnson, Lane Staines, Simon Bailey, Catoria Martin, Alex Martin, Andrew Harris, Baskin Jones, Betsy Turley, Roslyn Griffin, and Nakimuli Davis for their participation. For those that were unable to participate this year, please consider volunteering at (or even running in) next year's race scheduled for January 11, 2014.



JYL Donates over 300 Canned Good Items to Stewpot

In January and February 2013, the Community Service Committee raised over \$200 and collected over 300 canned goods for Stewpot.

Stewpot is a charitable organization that provides a number of services to the poor and homeless in the Jackson Metro area. The organization was founded in 1981 when representatives from seven churches came together to begin a Community Kitchen that provided noontime lunches to anyone, seven days a week and 365 days a year. Although the heart of Stewpot continues to be the Community Kitchen, the "soup kitchen" quickly grew into the organization that it is today, which offers various services from shelter, to clothing, to counseling, to meals on wheels, to the food pantry, and to children's programs.

Stewpot is funded primarily by donations. However, in December 2012, Stewpot learned that it may have lost as much as \$100,000 in donations through a mail fraud scheme. Someone sent a change of address notice to the U.S. Postal Service in mid-November, which caused checks that were sent to the organization from November 27 to December 17 to be re-routed to an empty home in south Jackson. Although all was not lost, some of the donors contacted Stewpot and confirmed that someone had removed the funds from their accounts possibly by using the account and routing number to draft the funds.

Thanks to the financial donations of some JYL members, the Community Service Committee was able to help Stewpot! JYL donated over 300 canned good items to Stewpot in February 2013! Stewpot was very thankful for the donations. If you are interested in making any additional donations to Stewpot (financial or otherwise), please contact either Roslyn Griffin or Nakimuli Davis, the Community Service Committee Chairs, to help coordinate your donation. Or, you can contact Stewpot directly by calling Stephanie Echols at (601) 353-2759.





Where are they now?

**With Former JYL President Trey Bourn,
2006—2007**

This issue we have the benefit of receiving insight from former JYL President Trey Bourn. Trey is a partner with Butler Snow O'Mara Stevens and Canada in Ridgeland. He is a member of the Product Liability Group. He represents clients in areas of recreational vehicles, watercraft, automatic doors, automobiles, firearms, home appliances, industrial machinery, children's toys and natural gas pipelines. Trey graciously agreed to impart some of his knowledge and experience upon our group regarding lessons learned and how to become a more effective young lawyer. Included here are some highlights from our interview with Trey.



JYL: As a former JYL President, what is your advice to young lawyers as they transition from law school to practice?

Trey: *Be patient with yourself and accept that, as a young lawyer (and beyond), you will fail and make mistakes. Understand that those failures and mistakes will be your greatest teachers.*

JYL: What philosophy defines you and your practice?

Trey: *I love the Robert Duvall quote in the movie, A Civil Action: "There is absolutely no place in a courtroom for pride." I have tried to practice law in such a way -- swallowing my pride at times in order to do the right thing for my client and the practice of law -- although I have failed often (see above).*

JYL: What were some of the benefits you enjoyed from your early involvement with JYL?

Trey: *Meeting great people and forming strong relationships that I still enjoy today. I also got to hear some great speakers – Haley Barbour, Frank Melton, Marshall Ramsey, and Judge Dan Jordan come to mind.*

JYL: What did you enjoy most about serving in a JYL leadership position?

Trey: *The Hershey Chocolate Pie at the University Club, where we had our meetings, without a doubt. Seriously, I thoroughly enjoyed the people with whom I served. We all became very good friends, and we all laughed a whole lot.*

JYL: What is your favorite thing about the practice of law?

Trey: *My favorite thing about the practice of law is its daily challenges, finding novel ways to solve problems in an ethical manner. I also love the relationships I forge with clients, judges, and other attorneys.*