



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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President's Comments



JEAN M. POWERS, PRESIDENT
MOBILE BAR ASSOCIATION

“Work-life balance.” The expression may be overused, but the lack of such balance is an increasing problem in our society, particularly for lawyers. It is important because we all require time for rest and rejuvenation – both physical and mental. Lawyers tend to be strong minded and strong willed; we can power through a lot, but the literature is clear – that mindset will exact a toll; sooner or later. Experts say life is a journey not a destination. Each day presents a new opportunity. While work life balance is elusive it is a must.

Envision the perfectly balanced day. Next, admit such a day will be rare, despite your best efforts. Instead of aiming for perfection, perhaps, instead, aim for certain goals over the next week, month or year. Consider for example:

- prayer time-daily;
- unstructured family time – increase by two hours per week;
- exercise- five times per week;
- professional reading unrelated to a specific legal matter- two hours per week;
- continuing education, practice related with an extra day at the seminar destination for relaxation – two per year;
- vacations – add two this year even if only mini vacations or staycations. (For me, a day off mid- week for yard work can be just as relaxing as an expensive trip).

Commit to your goals in writing and review your performance at year’s end.

If you do not design your life others will design it for you. Be responsible for setting and enforcing boundaries for your life. Carve out time for your most important activities and enforce those limitations. Parts of your day are not yours to control but parts of it are. Leverage the latter. Ponder the notions of devotion, exercise and focus, and consider whether any may benefit you. Plan your devotional time for when you wake up; before any electronics or other activities can distract

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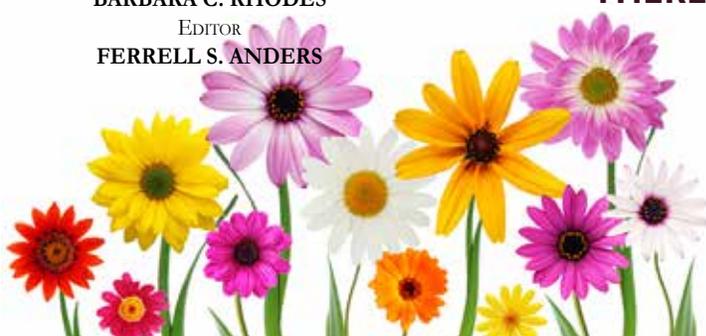
CHARLES E. “CHIP” TAIT

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PROGRAM

THERE WILL BE NO MONTHLY LUNCHEON IN APRIL

THE NEXT PROGRAM WILL BE THE
ANNUAL LAW DAY LUNCHEON

FRIDAY, MAY 18, 2018

GUEST SPEAKER

THE LIBERTY BELL AWARD WINNER AND
ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS



BROWSING THE BAR... *WITH BARBARA*

The **MBA LAW DAY** luncheon is always a highlight of the year and this year should be no exception. Plans are underway for the **NATURALIZATION CEREMONY, LAW HELP LINE, ESSAY CONTEST** and **LIBERTY BELL** as well as an exciting speaker. May 18 is the day to mark on your calendar for a reminder of this special occasion.

A few other “happenings” scheduled for this year is another **“EVENING AT MOE’S”** on Thursday, July 19, 2018 and the **30TH ANNUAL BENCH & BAR CONFERENCE, DECEMBER 7-9, 2018.**

The Workers’ Comp Section and Mentoring Committee already have dates set for the remainder of 2018, so be sure to check your **MONTHLY BULLETIN** for time and location. Several other Committees have projects underway, the Archives and History Committee, Probate Section, Women Lawyers and Young Lawyers, just to name a few.

PARAPROSDOKIAMS

1. Where there’s a will, I want to be in it.
2. The last thing I want to do is hurt you, but it is still on my list.
3. If I agreed with you, we’d both be wrong.
4. We never really grow up, we only learn how to act in public.
5. War does not determine who is right – only who is left.
6. Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.
7. They begin the evening news with ‘Good Evening,’ then proceed to tell you why it isn’t.
8. I thought I wanted a career. Turns out I just wanted paychecks.
9. Change is inevitable, except from a vending machine.
10. I’m supposed to respect my elders, but it’s getting harder and harder for me to find one now!



President’s Comments

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you. Because I start my day with coffee, I leave my devotional book by the coffee pot. Exercise before work. This may sound like an impossible luxury; let me suggest, however, that as you age, you will confront your mortality and will wish you had prioritized exercise as self-care rather than self-indulgence. Focus your tasks to gain efficiency. By grouping tasks you will increase productivity. During the work day, block off time for phone calls and meetings and other time for quiet work such as research and writing. In scheduling these blocks consider your personal energy levels. Some of us are more productive early and some of us are more productive late. Endeavor to focus free of electronic distractions. In the past I judged folks who could not put down their electronics and now, I am one of them. (Judge not . . .). A goal of my work day is to set aside time to focus: the phone is set on “Do Not Disturb,” the email program on my computer is closed, and my cellular phone is on silent. During these times I am struck by two things: first, how often I look up to check email; second, my increased productivity when I proactively minimize distractions. Focus free of work distractions. When you are not working, stop working. For me that means a conscious effort to not think about work. Over the last two years, a goal of mine has been not to open work emails during non-working hours; even though my compliance rate is not one hundred percent, I am better off for making the effort. Significantly, no disasters resulted and no client matters suffered.

Be intentional about your scheduling with the goal of increasing time for personal rejuvenation. Reframe your thinking about work-life balance; it is as important to your health as any medical test. Be flexible when, despite your intentional scheduling, you are working during personal time. Start fresh the next day. Review your efforts at the end of the year and congratulate yourself on your progress.



NATIONAL DEAF HISTORY MONTH

By: SUNTREASE WILLIAMS-MAYNARD

NATIONAL DEAF HISTORY MONTH, March 13 to April 15, celebrates deaf history and promotes awareness of American deaf culture. Among other things, **DEAF HISTORY MONTH** promotes the contributions of individual deaf Americans to U.S. society. **DEAF HISTORY MONTH** appears to have had its genesis March 13, 1996, when two deaf employees at Washington, D.C.'s **MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. MEMORIAL LIBRARY** taught sign language to their colleagues. This occurrence evolved into a week of deaf awareness created by the library. Quickly, deaf awareness week evolved into a month-long period dedicated to promoting a greater understanding of the deaf community, this period quickly evolved to last a month.

In 1996, the **NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF THE DEAF** suggested the week become a full-fledged month, and in 1997, the first annual, nation-wide **NATIONAL DEAF HISTORY MONTH** was celebrated. The popularity of **DEAF HISTORY MONTH** grew over time, and there is currently an effort under way by the **AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION** and the **NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF THE DEAF** to get the White House to declare it an official national event.

In April 2016, **U.S. CHIEF JUSTICE JOHN ROBERTS** used sign language from the Supreme Court bench marking a historic moment as he welcomed a dozen deaf and hard-of-hearing lawyers, who took part in a ceremony authorizing them to argue cases before the court. The 12 members of **DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING BAR ASSOCIATION** were sworn in as members of the Supreme Court bar. Roberts is believed to be the first U.S. chief justice to use sign language from the bench. It was also the first time members of the **DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING BAR ASSOCIATION** took part in a swearing-in ceremony at the court.

See more about this historic moment here:

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/inspired-life/wp/2016/04/19/supreme-court-chief-justice-learned-sign-language-to-swear-in-deaf-attorneys/>

We take this time to recognize the diversity that exists in our legal profession.



MOBILE BAR ASSOCIATION WOMEN LAWYERS

By: RUTH LICHTENFELD

PREPARING FOR AN “ACTIVE SHOOTER” SCENARIO

It is a tragic sign of the times that a presentation on how to defend ourselves from an “active shooter” is extremely relevant. On its website, the **UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY** defines an “active shooter” as “an individual who is engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined and populated area; in most cases, “active shooters” use firearms(s) and there is no pattern or method to their selection of victims.” The “active shooter” event is unpredictable and evolves quickly. Knowing what to do can save lives. At the March meeting of the **MBAWL**, we were privileged to have **OFFICER JOHN YOUNG** of the **MOBILE POLICE DEPARTMENT** educate us on what to do if we find ourselves confronted with an “active shooter.” Preparing in advance is vital. Among Officer Young’s tips is to practice situational awareness at all times when entering a public facility, i.e., know where alternate exits are so that you can escape if a dangerous situation of any type develops. If an “active shooter” scenario arises, and you cannot escape, Officer Young stated that we should fight back using anything at our disposal such as books, chairs, or other objects that you can throw to injure or distract the “active shooter.” There were numerous other tips that cannot be covered in this article due to space, but as a group, everyone agreed that we benefited tremendously from this presentation. Officer Young is available to speak to groups in which you may be involved. For his contact information contact **RUTH LICHTENFELD** at 251-433-3657.

**Join us at the next meeting of the
MBAWL on April 10, 2018 at 5:30 pm
at Red or White Wine & Gourmet
Center located at 1104 Dauphin Street.**

**SAVE THE DATE FOR THE
SEVENTH ANNUAL
TRAILBLAZER TEA
ON MAY 15, 2018**

Join us! It’s never too late to go for it!

**MBAWL President Krissy
and Officer John Young**





LAWYERS IN THE NEWS

BY SANDY G. ROBINSON

CONGRATULATIONS: MBA member **MORGAN HOFFERBER** and husband John welcomed son **JOHN WILLIAM HOFFERBER, JR.**, born February 28, 2018 weighing 8 lbs. 7 oz., 20 ¼ inches long. Best wishes to all!

DIED: MBA member **BARRY ANDREWS** died February 15, 2018 in Daphne. Barry was born in Cleveland, Ohio and attended Yale University, University of Oxford (England) and Notre Dame Law School. He is survived by his wife, three children, a sister, a nephew and many friends.

DIED: ANN HAAS COX, wife of **U. S. CIRCUIT JUDGE RIP COX**, died in Fairhope on March 17, 2018. She was a native of Mobile and attended Visitation Academy, Bishop Toolen Catholic High School for Girls, and Murphy High School. She graduated in 1956 from the University of Alabama where she was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority. Ann and Rip were married in 1964 in St. Joseph's Chapel at Spring Hill College. She was active in many organizations, including the Junior League, a Mardi Gras Society, Christ the King Catholic Parish and, in recent years, St. Lawrence Catholic Parish. She is survived by her husband, two children, five grandchildren, and many other relatives and friends.

DIED: MARGARET JOYCE BOLTON, mother of Mobile lawyer **JOE BOLTON**, died on February 13, 2018. She attended St Patrick's School in Mobile and graduated from the Convent of Mercy. She attended the Providence Hospital School of Nursing. She was active in many Catholic organizations, including the Archdiocese Council of Catholic Women, the Burse Club, and the altar sodality at St. Monica's and St. Dominic's. She was awarded the Pontifical Medal for her service to the Church by Pope Paul VI. She is survived by her brother, The Most Reverend Oscar H. Lipscomb; her son; two grandchildren, and many other relatives and friends.



Spring INTO **WINE + ART**

Wine Tasting with International Wines

Local Art Auction

American Legion Fairhope
April 15, 2-5pm

Live Music with Roman Street

Grand Cru



Cellar Select



Private Reserve

The Barnes Firm
Freedom Court Reporting
Helmsing Leach
Attorneys at Law
Stein and Pilcher, LLC
Stifel

Sommelier

American Legion Post 199
First Baldwin Land and Title
Smartbank
MH3
McCarron Insurance Group
Port City Rentals
Walker Insurance Agency
JoJo Schwarzauer, Circuit Clerk
ProLegal Copies

Benefitting



tickets: \$35/advance or \$40/door savip.org/fundraisers

THE MOBILE BAR'S MENTORING PROGRAM

By: Greg Vaughn

The **MOBILE BAR'S MENTORING PROGRAM** offers low cost (and sometimes no cost) CLE and networking opportunities to newer members of the Mobile Bar. Currently we offer two types of programs: **"GROUP MENTORING"** and **"THE FUNDAMENTALS CLE."**

GROUP MENTORING

The Group Mentoring program will be offered 3 times this year. We primarily cover ethics, professionalism, practice management, and marketing. The discussion is led by 4 experienced lawyers – and the format is more of a panel discussion – with interaction from the newer lawyer participants. All participants obtain 2 hours of CLE credit – and lunch is provided. During the lunch break we encourage the experienced lawyers to meet the newer lawyers, provide their contact information, and offer to be available if any questions arise in the future. There is no cost for MBA members with 10 years of experience or less. We welcome all other MBA members and non-members to join us, and standard CLE rates will be charged.

This year's Group Mentoring Dates / Topics are as follows:

April 27th (11am-1pm, at Serda's Brewery, 600 Government Street):

Preparing and Implementing a Law Firm Business Plan;

Conflicts of Interest – checking for, recognizing, and dealing with conflicts.

(Lead Mentors: Mobile Bar President, **JEAN POWERS** (jeanpowerslaw.net), Past – President Mobile Bar, **PETE MACKEY** (bcmlawyers.com), local Family Lawyer, **ALISON HERLIHY** (herlihyfamilylaw.com), and local Mediator/Lawyer **REGGIE COPELAND**)

June 22nd (11am-1pm, location to be determined):

Leaving a firm – how to protect yourself, including advising clients and withdrawing from cases;

Setting up and maintaining a law practice.

November 30th (11am-1pm, location to be determined)

How to talk with Client about attorneys' fees, including examples of fee agreements and retainers (and how to deal with fee disputes);

Developing time management skills – and beneficial time management technology.

THE FUNDAMENTALS CLE

"The Fundamentals" is a daylong CLE, offering 8 hours of credit. MBA members with 10 years of experience or less can attend for \$25. We welcome all other MBA members and non-members to join us, and standard CLE rates will be charged.

This year's CLE is titled "Fundamentals of Trial Practice" and it will be held on **September 21st from 8am to 5pm, at The Admiral Hotel.**

The following is the proposed schedule of courses:

Westlaw, Civil Opening & Closing, Criminal Opening & Closing, Civil Direct and Cross (fact witnesses), Criminal Direct and Cross (fact witnesses), Civil Direct and Cross of Experts, Criminal Direct and Cross of Experts, Ethical issues regarding Trial Practice, Voir Dire, Bench Trial Roundtable (covering Workers Comp, Social Security, Domestic, District Civil, Probate), & Judge's Panel/Trial Practice Do's and Don'ts.

We are indebted to *Thomson Reuters* for their generous sponsorship of our programming (covering the last three years).

If you'd like to attend one (or all) of our programs this year, we encourage you to contact the bar's office (p. 433-9790, tanderson@mobilebarassociation.com, brhodes@mobilebarassociation.com) and register. And, lastly, please follow us on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/MobileBarMentoring/

YOUNG LAWYERS

KATE BROWNING DEKEYSER, PRESIDENT

The **YOUNG LAWYERS** would like to thank **TAYLOR MARTINO** for a great March **STREET PARTY** meeting. We appreciate Taylor Martino's continued support.

The April meeting will be hosted by **BURR & FORMAN** on April 19, 2018, from 5:00-7:00 at **SOUTHERN NATIONAL** located at 360 Dauphin Street. We look forward to seeing everyone on the 19th.

If you are not on the Young Lawyers e-mail list and would like to be, or if you have any questions, concerns, or comments, please e-mail President Kate Browning DeKeyser (kmb@rebpc.net), Vice President Weathers Bolt (wbolt@starneslaw.com), or Treasurer Catherine Spann (cspann@handarendall.com).



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Looking for the Last Will and Testament of **ELLA MAE DONALD SMITH** or **ELLA MAE DONALD** or **ELLA MAE SMITH**. Anyone with any knowledge please contact **JOHN M. TEAGUE**, Esquire 251-308-1004 or jmt@johnteaguelaw.com.

QUALITY OFFICE SPACE available with full amenities and free parking. Located in Midtown but close to Downtown. Call: 251-432-8120.

DOWNTOWN OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE: 209 N. Joachim Street in historic DeTonti Square. Available: one large office, one smaller office. Within walking distance of federal courts. Amenities: Receptionist, VOIP telephone, internet, WIFI, email, fax machine, large color copier/scanner, onsite parking, lobby, conference room and kitchen. Contact **ASHTON SHEPHERD** (ashton@evanscrowe.com) or **EVANS CROWE** (crowe@evanscrowe.com) at 431 6011.

EXTREMELY NICE PROFESSIONAL OFFICE space for lease at 1325 Dauphin Street. Available space ranges from 650 to 1,530 square feet and is \$14 per square foot. Amenities include: 3-4 professional offices, 3-4 secretarial spaces, plentiful onsite parking, two conference rooms, men and women's restrooms, a kitchen, VOIP for phone and wifi internet, CAT5 wiring, and copy room with fully functional copier. Dauphin Street signage is also available. Call Mechele at 251-432-8120 or send email to mechele@satterwhitelaw.com



PLEASE GIVE

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

I want to make a donation to the Mobile Bar Foundation.

In honor/memory of: _____

Acknowledgment to: Name _____

Address _____

I want to become a member of the Mobile Bar Foundation.

Check enclosed

Bill my credit card \$_____ Visa/Master Card/Amex #_____

Life Member (\$5000, can be paid in up to 5 annual installments)

Sustaining Member (\$100 or more annually)

Regular Member (\$50 - \$99 annually)

or if member of MBA practicing 5 years or less \$25 - \$99)

I would like information on including the Foundation in my estate planning.

Signature _____ Exp. _____

Mail to: Mobile Bar Foundation, P.O. Drawer 2005, Mobile, AL 36652



MOBILE BAR FOUNDATION MEMORIALS

A DONATION HAS BEEN MADE TO THE MOBILE BAR FOUNDATION
IN MEMORY OF

**WILLIAM A. "BILLY" KIMBROUGH, JR.
KAREN CARR & MICHAEL A. SMITH**

**WILLIAM A. KIMBROUGH, JR.
E. FRANK WOODSON, JR.**

**HARRY RIDDICK
FERRELL & PAULINE ANDERS**

APRIL

**APRIL 1 - SUNDAY
APRIL FOOL'S DAY**

**12 THURSDAY
MBA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING,
12 O'CLOCK NOON,
ATHELSTAN CLUB**

**16 MONDAY
MBA WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMITTEE MEETING
12 O'CLOCK NOON,
ATHELSTAN CLUB**

**26 THURSDAY
MBA GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE MEETING,
12 O'CLOCK NOON,
ATHELSTAN CLUB**

**26 THURSDAY
MBA PROBATE SECTION MEETING,
12 O'CLOCK NOON,
T.P. CROCKMIER'S**

**27 FRIDAY
MBA MENTORING COMMITTEE SESSION,
11:00 AM – 1:00 PM,
SERDA'S BREWERY**

