

69th Annual Meeting

June 14–17, 2007



1: The Annual Meeting marks the beginning of a year of service for VSB officers, including (left–right) President-elect Manuel A. Capsalis of Arlington, President Howard W. Martin Jr. of Norfolk and Immediate Past President Karen A. Gould of Richmond.

2: Former Virginia Gov. Gerald L. Baliles (left) joins in the celebration with Heather and Howard Martin after Howard Martin is sworn in as 2007–08 VSB president.

3: In keeping with annual tradition, Executive Director Thomas A. Edmonds presents outgoing President Karen A. Gould with a caricature by Richmond attorney Michael L. Goodman. The caricature captured Gould's love of her dogs and technology while highlighting the successes of her presidency, including the development of the Online Member Directory.

4: A favorite stop for Annual Meeting attendees is the Lawyers Expo, where they can visit with exhibitors who offer the latest in law-office technology, legal publications, and related products and services. Here, Leesburg attorney Jon D. Huddleston (right) talks with the Virginia Law Foundation's Tom Payne and Sharon Tatum.

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1: Each year, the VSB recognizes those who have been members in good standing for 50 years. The following honorees attended a luncheon sponsored by the Senior Lawyers Conference: (front row, left–right) Judge Michael R. Caprio Jr.; James M. Young; Richard Cocke; Thomas W. Moss Jr.; John F. Batte Jr.; Robert S. Cohen; Charles G. Aschmann Jr.; James A. Baber III; Jim Zegeer; (back row, left–right) John G. Mizell Jr., 2006–07 SLC secretary; Judge Jere M.H. Willis Jr.; Carter B.S. Furr; George W. Shanks, 2006–07 SLC chair-elect; James C. Roberts, VSB past president; Judge William T. Prince, VSB past president; Robert M. Hughes III; Judge Robert T.S. Colby; Thomas C. Broyles; Jack W. Burtch Jr., 2006–07 SLC chair; A. Hugo Blankingship Jr.; Martin Kelly, son of deceased honoree John F. Kelly, Frederick J. Dean III, William T. Wilson, 2006–07 SLC immediate past chair, Frank O. Brown Jr., SLC past chair, and William M. Phillips.

2: Humorist and Tennessee trial lawyer William “Wild Bill” Haltom (right) entertains attendees of his presentation at the Showcase Continuing Legal Education Program. Following Haltom’s remarks, a panel, including Spotsylvania Circuit Court Judge Ann Hunter Simpson and Richmond attorney David P. Baugh, fielded audience questions relating to professionalism and the lawyer’s search for happiness.

3: Judge Jeri K. Somers of the U.S. Civilian Board of Contract Appeals and retired Judge William H. Ledbetter Jr. of Fredericksburg chat during the noontime Beach Break Reception.



1: For his work to ensure that youths have access to services and support necessary to live successful lives, Charlottesville attorney Andrew K. Block Jr. (center) receives the Virginia Legal Aid Award. The award, presented by the Access to Legal Services Committee, was given to Block during a luncheon at which Virginia's first lady, Anne B. Holton (right), was the guest speaker and Judge Angela E. Roberts of Richmond's Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court was a guest.

2: Steven L. Higgs (center) is named Local Bar Leader of the Year for his guidance of the Roanoke Bar Association, including the expansion of its legal-education opportunities and the formation of a committee to oversee its public service projects. Higgs received his award from George W. Shanks, 2006–07 chair of the Conference of Local Bar Associations, and 2006–07 VSB President Karen A. Gould at a breakfast sponsored by the Conference of Local Bar Associations.

3: Sarah Louppe Petcher receives the R. Edwin Burnette Jr. Young Lawyer of the Year award from Maya M. Eckstein, 2006–07 Young Lawyers Conference president. Petcher was recognized for her outstanding work as a chair of the YLC's Immigrant Outreach Committee.

4: The annual Run in the Sun was hosted by the Young Lawyers Conference.

