

The Norfolk and Portsmouth Bar Association: Rich in History, Commitment to Profession and Community

Chartered on March 5, 1900, the Norfolk and Portsmouth Bar Association (NPBA) has a mission of service in the legal field—to the general public, to the legal profession in general and to the members of the association.

Celebration/History

The same week that Hampton Roads welcomed the automobile, a small group of attorneys obtained a charter from the General Assembly of Virginia for an organized bar, which became the NPBA of today. On May 3, 2000, it celebrated its 100th anniversary in a grand tradition, recognizing the past presidents over the past century. The keynote address was delivered by William H. Rehnquist, Chief Justice of the United States.

"I believe it can be said that the Centennial luncheon went off without a hitch," said, Montgomery Knight, Jr., then NPBA president. "Every living past president together with a number of surviving spouses of past presidents attended, as well as 45 judges."

The Centennial Luncheon Gala also received an Award of Merit in 2000.

Community Outreach

NPBA outreach includes its Legal Blood Drive, for which it received an Award of Merit at the VSB 2001 Annual Meeting, and its participation in building a Habitat House. In its Legal Food Frenzy, now in its 10th year, contests are held among local law firms for contributing money and donating food to the needy. This project is conducted in conjunction with the FoodBank of Southeastern Virginia.

Service to Profession and Members

To serve its 1013 members, the NPBA strives to maintain the highest standards of professionalism and to enhance the professional competence of lawyers. Examples include:

- The annual Bench Bar Conference, where members can earn both CLE and Ethics credit. The 2002 conference will be the fourth one and will honor Chief Justice Harry L. Carrico.
- The award-winning *Law Matters*, a supplement to the *Virginian Pilot* newspaper that provides articles on legal topics geared toward the general public. It won an Award of Merit in 1998 and again in 2000, when content was devoted to the NPBA's Centennial celebration.
- Lawyers' Lounge, a room in the bar office overlooking the Elizabeth River and the shipyards, giving members a place to relax during the day.



Past NPBA President John Richardson (left) and NPBA Executive Director Gay Pfister admire this year's Eggleston/I'Anson Award, presented to Bob Stackhouse (middle), at the NPBA annual dinner in May.

Additionally, the NPBA gives awards honoring the achievement of its members. The Eggleston/I'Anson Professionalism Award is named after former Virginia Supreme Court Chief Justices John W. Eggleston, of Norfolk, and Lawrence W. I'Anson, of Portsmouth. The award honors present and former members of the NPBA who have exemplified the highest standards of professionalism throughout their careers. The NPBA also awards the Walter F. Hoffman Community Service Award to a practicing attorney in recognition of his or her hands-on contribution to the community.

Although I may be demonstrating a bias toward my hometown, I feel that the Norfolk & Portsmouth Bar Association has produced some of the best lawyers in the state Some of my fondest memories are of attending NPBA luncheons with my father and brother as a family unit.

—VSB President Michael Glasser on his local bar

Officers

Robert J. Macbeth, Jr.: President
Cheshire I'Anson Eveleigh: President-elect
Conrad M. Shumadine: Secretary
Stanley Graves Barr, Jr.: Treasurer
John Y. Richardson, Jr.: Conference Representative
Gay Pfister: Executive Director

Special Projects

Is your local bar planning a special project for the year? Does it need suggestions on where to start?

Assistance is available through the Local Bar Library. It has videos and materials on many subjects and projects, designed for large, medium and small bars. Please contact Barbara Allen, (804) 775-0590, or Paulette Davidson, (804) 775-0521, for more information or visit the CLBA Web site at www.vsb.org/clba for a listing of videos and reference materials.

Once you have completed your project, no matter how big or small, don't forget to submit it for the Awards of Merit competition. The deadline for entries is May 6, 2002.

CLBA Information Now Available on the Web

The Web site for the CLBA is now up and running. In addition to providing general information on the CLBA, the site contains information useful to both CLBA members and the general public. Such information includes:

- calendar of events
- listing of publication and library resources
- listing of CLEs
- information on Awards of Merit and the Bar Leader of the Year Award
- downloadable version of *Local Bar Connection* and *So You're 18*

www.vsb.org/clba

LOCAL & SPECIALTY BAR ELECTIONS

Arlington County Bar Association:

Mark David Seidelson, President
Charles Erik Gustafson, President-elect
George Webb Dodge, Secretary
Carol Winfield McCoskrie, Treasurer
Manuel Aggie Capsalis, Conference Representative

Harrisonburg-Rockingham Bar Association:

Steven Carter Rhodes, President
Hugh David O'Donnell, President-elect
John Stanley Hart, Jr., Secretary
Melisa Gay Ledbetter, Treasurer
John Edward Whitfield, Conference Representative

Lynchburg Bar Association:

Royston Jester, IV, President
William Earl Phillips, President-elect
Burton Leigh Drewry, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer
Royston Jester, IV, Conference Representative

Old Dominion Bar Association:

Marilynn Cole Goss, President
Robert Franklin Hagans, Jr., 1st Vice President
Carolyn Currie Eaglin, 2nd Vice President
Patricia Denise Tolliver, Secretary
Donald Jerome Gee, Treasurer

Peninsula Bar Association:

Cressondra Brown Willis, President
LeRon William Gilchrist, Vice President
Angela Christine Harrison, Secretary
John Christopher Allen, IV, Treasurer
Cressondra Brown Willis, Conference Representative

Richmond Bar Young Lawyers:

Vernon Eugene Inge, Jr., Chair
Carla Thomas Hurlbert, Chair-elect
John Martin Oakey, III, Secretary

Richmond Chapter of Old Dominion Bar:

Alexander Leonard Taylor, Jr., President
Camille Danita Sabbakhan, Secretary
Gina Michelle Burgin, Treasurer
Alexander Leonard Taylor, Jr., Conference Representative

Virginia College Of Criminal Defense Attorneys:

Marvin D. Miller, President
James M. Hingeley, Jr., President-elect
Bruce R. Williamson, Jr., Vice President
Esther Jeanette Windmueller, Secretary
Richard Ernest Gardiner, Treasurer

Winchester-Frederick County Bar Association:

John William Truban, President
Bruce Edward Downing, President-elect
Michelle Morris Jones, Secretary
Mary L. Costello Daniel, Treasurer
Thomas Joseph Chasler, Member At-Large
Nikolas E. Parthemos, Conference Representative