

Judge Dean Lewis Receives Lifetime Achievement Award

In recognition of her contribution to child advocacy and family law, the Honorable J. Dean Lewis, judge of the 15th Judicial District Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court, received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Virginia State Bar's Family Law Section at the bar's annual meeting in Virginia Beach on June 20. Established in 1993, the Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes and honors an individual who has made substantial contributions to the practice and administration of family law in the Commonwealth of Virginia.



A 1970 graduate of Mary Washington College and the Marshall Wythe School of Law of the College of William and Mary in 1973, Judge Lewis was first appointed as Commissioner in Chancery in the 15th Judicial District in 1976, and as a juvenile and domestic relations court judge for the 15th District in 1986. She served as chief judge of the domestic relations district court from 1990 through 1992. Throughout her years of service, she has initiated programs to help children in foster care, to assist troubled families and to educate both the lay and legal community in the efficient practice of family law. The programs she was responsible for founding or facilitating include the following:

- The Spotsylvania County Adoption and Foster Care Improvement Team. A team of attorneys, social services workers, CASA members and others founded to improve the status of children in the foster care system and ensure that each child has the opportunity for permanent placement in a nurturing environment.
- Mock Trials for Social Services Workers. A series of mock trials to teach social services workers effective ways to testify in foster care cases.
- Hanover County CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates). A program of adults volunteering to serve as advocates for neglected or abused children in the court system. Judge Lewis founded the program in Hanover in 1988 and in the Rappahannock area in 1989.
- Community Task Force for Prevention of Alcohol and Substance Abuse. A committee that Judge Lewis founded in 1989, it received a Governor's Award for Education in the Field of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Prevention in 1993.

In the area of family law practice, the documents and reference tools that she has created for use by family practice attorneys make her court, in the words of local family law attorneys, a "best practice" example of juvenile and domestic relations courts across Virginia.

Among her professional commitments, Judge Lewis has served on the board of directors of Virginia Emergency Families for Children (1989-92); as president of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (1998-99); and as an appointed member to the Governor's Commission on Violent Crime in 1992. She received an award from the Governor's Council on Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention in 1989 and was selected as 1997 Judge of the Year by the National Court Appointed Special Advocate Association. She currently serves on the National CASA Association board of directors and will continue her work in that capacity after her retirement from the bench in July 2003.

IN MEMORIAM

Joseph A. Abdelnour
Williamsburg
March 1936–February 2003

R. William Arthur
Wytheville
May 1917–April 2003

L.E. Blanchard
Richmond
March 1921–April 2003

Carle E. Davis
Richmond
May 1920–April 2003

Robert W. Dech
Warrenton
May 1919–April 2003

The Hon. Thomas C. Gordon, Jr.
Richmond
July 1915–May 2003

Peter Charles Graff
Charlottesville
July 1969–March 2003

William E. Grossman
Sanibel, FL
March 1925–January 2003

E. Brodnax Haskins
Richmond
January 1931–May 2003

Allan L. Kamerow
Alexandria
May 1921–December 2002

Alexander W. Neal, Jr.
Richmond
March 1916–May 2003

Mark Warren Newman
Manassas
May 1951–December 2002

A. Grey Staples, Jr.
Fredericksburg
January 1935–March 2003

Claude A. Turner, Jr.
Eastville
September 1919–March 2003

Virginia Mister Walker
Capeville
July 1913–February 2003

Virginia Law Foundation Accepting Nominations for Fellows Class of 2004

Nominations for the 2004 class of Virginia Law Foundation Fellows will be accepted through September 2, 2003. The 2004 class will be inducted at a dinner meeting in Williamsburg on January 15, 2004, during The Virginia Bar Association's annual meeting.

Candidates must be an active or associate member of the Virginia State Bar for at least ten years; be a resident of Virginia; be a person of integrity and character; have maintained and upheld the highest standards of the profession; be outstanding in the community; and be distinguished in the practice of law. Retired and senior status judges are eligible. Sitting full-time judges and constitutional office holders are not eligible during their tenures.

Nominations must include a resume or biographical sketch of the nominee, must be received by September 2 and be sent to

VLF Fellows Council
c/o Nominations
701 East Franklin Street, Suite 708
Richmond, VA 23219

phone (804)648-0112 or email:
valawfdn@infionline.net.

For a complete listing of current Fellows, see the foundation's Web site at
www.virginialawfoundation.org.

Ken Smith Receives Tradition of Excellence Award

In recognition of his outstanding service to the legal profession and to the community, the General Practice Section of the Virginia State Bar has selected Kenneth McFarlane Smith as recipient of its 16th annual Tradition of Excellence Award for 2003. The award is presented annually to an attorney who has dedicated time and effort to activities that assist the community while improving the standing and image of general practice attorneys in the eyes of the public. Mr. Smith received the award on June 21st at the state bar's annual meeting in Virginia Beach.



Born in Kokomo, Indiana, and a graduate of Indiana University's Law School, Smith went into general practice law in Arlington, Virginia in 1954, where he continues to practice.

During his 49 years as a lawyer, Smith has served as an assistant commonwealth attorney (1956–1960); as assistant commissioner of accounts, Arlington County, since 1960; and as a substitute judge for the Arlington County District Court beginning in 1961 and continuing to the present.

According to Arlington attorney, Mark D. Cummings, "He has a sterling reputation as a substitute judge, and has been praised for his patience and deference to the people of the community that come before his court."

In addition to his appointed posts, Smith also sits on the board of directors of the Arlington County Bar Foundation, where he engages in fund-raising projects that promote alcohol-free high school graduation activities and writes a regular column for the *Journal of the Arlington County Bar Association*. He was made a Fellow of the Virginia Law Foundation in 1998.

Smith has approached his volunteer activities for his church and community with equal zeal. In 1978, he was elected president of the Virginia Baptist General Association, a statewide organization of over 600,000 members and served concurrently as chairman of the general board. He followed this post in 1991 to become a member of the board of directors of the Virginia Baptist Foundation. During his 3-year tenure, the foundation increased its total assets from \$24 million to \$64 million.

For his community, Smith has been an enthusiastic supporter of the Arlington Salvation Army and the Kiwanis Club. He has served on the board of directors for the Salvation Army Corps since 1961, and as co-chair of the Army's board of advisors from 1963 to 1966, where he oversaw the acquisition and building of its Arlington headquarters. As a member of the Kiwanis since 1956, he has held nearly every office including president and district lieutenant governor. For his work with these organizations, Smith was given the International Salvation Army's General William Booth Service Award and was named the Arlington Kiwanis Man of the Year, 1964–71.

Smith and his wife, Millie, have been married for 49 years. The couple has two children and four grandchildren.

VSB Executive Director Named Vice President of National Association of Bar Executives

Thomas A. Edmonds, executive director of the Virginia State Bar has been elected vice-president of the National Association of Bar Executives (NABE). Edmonds will automatically succeed to the offices of president-elect in 2004 and president in 2005. He will be the first Virginian to lead the organization in its 63-year history.

Edmonds has been a leader in the organization, which is closely associated with the American Bar Association, since he became executive director and chief operating officer of the Virginia State Bar in 1989. He served on the NABE Board of Directors, chaired the Chief Staff Executives Committee, served on the ABA Joint Committee on Lawyer Regulation and was a special advisor to the ABA Standing Committee on Bar Activities and Services. For the past six years, he has represented NABE in the American Bar Association House of Delegates.

NABE was founded in 1941 to serve bar associations and law-related organizations. Its mission is to promote excellence and professionalism among bar executives and staffs.

Changes Announced at Lawyers Helping Lawyers

The Lawyers Helping Lawyers Program has become a Virginia Non-Stock Corporation and is applying for nonprofit status, according to its executive director, Susan Pauley.

Pauley said that the changes are being made to respond better to lawyers' impairment caused by mental health problems. The program is seeking attorneys and judges who are interested in joining a new branch of the volunteer network that will provide peer support, intervention and monitoring for persons with mental health problems.

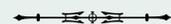
A new board of directors met in February 2003. It includes appointees from The Virginia Bar Association, the Virginia State Bar, the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association and the Virginia Board of Bar Examiners.

Lawyers Helping Lawyers has also moved its offices. It is now located at 700 East Main Street, Suite 1501, Richmond, VA 23219. The telephone number is (804) 644-3212; fax: (804) 644-5510; and e-mail: info@valhl.org. The Web site is www.valhl.org.

Free and Low-cost Pro Bono Training



Visit the Pro Bono page on the VSB Web site for free and low-cost pro bono trainings and volunteer opportunities: www.vsb.org/probono/.



The Virginia Law Foundation Announces 2003–04 Grant Awards

The Virginia Law Foundation board of directors recently approved 41 grant awards totaling \$417,210 for law-related projects across Virginia.

Now in its 20th year of grantmaking, the foundation has provided nearly \$21 million in grant support to programs that provide civil legal assistance to low-income Virginians, law-related education to the public, public service internships for Virginia law students and projects designed to improve the administration of justice.

The VLF awarded a total of \$99,000 to 10 pro-bono/legal services projects; 15 law-related education projects received \$105,210; 14 administration of justice projects received \$147,500, and two recipients received \$65,500 for public service internship programs. VLF funds are provided in support of these projects for a one-year period beginning July 1, 2003.

The foundation board allocates 5 percent of its assets annually for grants and operations. During the current cycle, the VLF received 65 requests for funding, totaling \$1.28 million. The Virginia Law Foundation was established in 1974 by the Virginia State Bar.

The foundation is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt entity; contributions to it are tax deductible. The foundation encourages donations from Virginia attorneys. For further information about the VLF including a detailed list of grant awards, contact Sharon Tatum, executive director, at (804) 648-0112, or visit the foundation's Web site at www.virginialawfoundation.org.

Mezzullo Receives CLE Award

Robert S. Ballou (left), chair of the Virginia CLE committee, presented Louis A. Mezzullo with the sixth Gardner G. DeMallie, Jr., Continuing Legal Education Award at the 65th VSB Annual Meeting on June 21 in Virginia Beach.



Roanoke Bar Association Aids Summer Reading Program

The Roanoke Bar Association has completed the fourth year of its "Barrister Book Buddies" program.

During the 2002–2003 school year, 65 local attorneys and their professional staff members volunteered to read one hour each month to an elementary school class at Garden City Elementary School, Lincoln Terrace Elementary School, Morningside Elementary School, Oakland Elementary School or Preston Park Elementary School.

During the school year, the attorneys read to almost 900 students in 52 classrooms.

At the end of the school year, the attorneys distributed a book to each child in the participating classrooms for those children to keep. These gifts were made in order to encourage the students to continue to read during the summer. Roanoke Bar Association members distributed almost 900 books to the participating students.

For further information, contact:

Steven L. Higgs
Roanoke Bar Association
communications committee chair
(540) 985-0758
Email higgs@kinghiggs.com.

Rockbridge County Students Win Top Prizes



Seven students from Rockbridge County High School in Lexington, were presented their awards for the VSB Law in Society essay contest at the Rockbridge County School Board meeting on May 5, 2003. Pictured above are (front row, left to right) Maya Ujie, first place; Patrick Sheridan, second place; Kelly Evans, third place; (back row, left to right) David F. Partlett, dean of the Washington & Lee School of Law and member of the VSB Litigation Section; Matthew Szarzynski, honorable mention; Linda Dawson, honorable mention; Rebecca Cox, honorable mention; and Kevin Holt of Gentry Locke Rakes & Moore, a member of the VSB Litigation Section. Not pictured: Honorable mention recipient Kendal Schneiter.

This is the fifth year in a row that students of Peggy Hayes have placed in the contest.

Honorable mention also went to Wesley Harris, a junior at Broadwater Academy in Exmore; Margaret Eason, a senior at Nansemond-Suffolk Academy in Suffolk; and Kendra Wergin, a senior at Maggie L. Walker Governor's School for Government and International Studies in Richmond.

The Law in Society Award Competition is sponsored by the Virginia State Bar and its Litigation Section to increase awareness and appreciation of our legal system among high school students. Criterion for the competition is an essay in response to a hypothetical on a predetermined topic.

You can find a complete list of winners and read the first place essay on the VSB Web site at www.vsb.org/publications/lawinsociety/.

Richmond Bar Foundation Elects Officers

At its annual meeting on June 4, 2003, the board of directors of the Greater Richmond Bar Foundation elected the following officers: George H. Hettrick, president; Joan M. Oakey, vice president; Anne D. McDougall, vice president; Daniel L. Rosenthal, treasurer; and Brian R. Marron, secretary. In addition, Melissa A. Hoy and Jack Kelly were elected to serve on the board of directors.

The foundation operates the pro bono clearinghouse which provides free legal services to qualifying non-profit groups in the area. The foundation also assists with funding of pro bono legal services through Central Virginia Legal Aid Society and with law-related education projects.

Bookmark It!
www.vayounglawyers.org

It is easier than ever to read about the latest projects the Young Lawyers Conference are sponsoring across the state. You can now access the YLC Web site directly at www.vayounglawyers.org and www.vayounglawyers.com.

With one click of the mouse, you can send a message to the chair of a committee that interests you, or to your local circuit representative to find out about volunteer opportunities. It only takes a minute to fill out an online volunteer opportunity form and become an active member of the Young Lawyers Conference.

If you have information on a YLC project or event that you would like to post on the Web site, please e-mail jacqueline_mccintyre@vaed.uscourts.gov.