

VSB Partners with State to Promote Conservation Easements

In April 2006, Governor Timothy M. Kaine announced that the centerpiece of his environmental agenda was an ambitious goal of permanently preserving four hundred thousand acres by the end of his administration.

In his speech, the Governor noted that time is of the essence for land conservation in Virginia: "Of all the development that has occurred in the last four hundred years, more than a quarter of it has taken place in the last fifteen years." He warned that if development continues at this pace "... Virginia will develop more land in the next forty years than in the last four hundred years. I will set and meet this goal during my term, not just because it's the right thing to do. I will do it because if I don't, the opportunity to do it will not be there for future governors and future Virginians."

The Virginia State Bar will have an important role this proactive conservation policy.

With the past as prologue, one may assume that 75 percent of the land conservation needed to reach the Governor's goal will be in the form of conservation easements.

A conservation easement is a voluntary, legally binding agreement that limits certain types of uses or prevents development from taking place on a piece of property now and in the future, while protecting the property's ecological or open-space values.

Virginia has an innovative tax credit program to encourage the donation of conservation easements, and the federal income tax benefit associated with such donations has recently been made more generous.

But relatively few attorneys across the commonwealth currently have expertise in advising clients concerning the legal and tax ramifications of donating or selling conservation easements.

The VSB will be partner with the Office of the Secretary of Natural Resources and the Virginia Outdoors Foundation (VOF), a state agency that holds more than 80 percent of the conservation easements recorded in Virginia's courthouses, to offer continuing legal education courses pertinent to conservation easement structure and practice.

The most authoritative text on conservation easements is *The Conservation Easement Handbook*, published in 2005 by the Land Trust Alliance and the Trust for Public Lands.

To learn more about the VOF and view its guidelines and document entitled "10 Steps to Conveying a VOF Conservation Easement" and draft conservation easement template, go to:

<http://www.virginiaoutdoorsfoundation.org/>.

Discipline Department Holds Summer Conference

The Virginia State Bar's twenty-sixth Disciplinary Conference took place July 14 in Williamsburg. About one hundred volunteers from across Virginia gathered to learn the process through which the Disciplinary Board and district committees adjudicate misconduct charges against attorneys.

1: Chief Justice Leroy R. Hassell Sr. (left) and William L. Babcock Jr. of Alexandria, 2006–2007 chair of the Committee on Lawyer Discipline. The Chief Justice was the luncheon speaker for the gathering.

2: Peter A. Dingman of Alexandria (left), chair of the Disciplinary Board, and VSB Deputy Bar Counsel Harry M. Hirsch.



Voluntary Bars Offer Senior Law Day Programs

Out of the Alleghany-Bath-Highland Bar Association comes a public service project that is proving itself very adaptable to different localities.

It has a ready-made textbook (the *Senior Citizens Handbook*) and an avid audience (seniors, hungry for information on estate matters, health law, caretaking issues and end-of-life questions).

All sponsors need is a meeting place and lawyer volunteers.

The Senior Law Day program was first offered in May 2005 at the Covington Court House. More than one hundred seniors attended and sat for more than two hours, rapt, while local lawyers, a judge and community leaders addressed issues important to people in late life.

The event was praised by attendees and garnered significant publicity in the region, said William T. Wilson, the 2005–2006 chair of the Senior Lawyers Conference. Wilson practices in Covington, and he

helped create and lead the bar association project.

Since then, the Alleghany-Bath-Highland Bar Association has circulated its project notebook as a model for future programs elsewhere. So far, the Loudoun County, Arlington County, Harrisonburg-Rockingham, Roanoke and Rockbridge County bar associations have presented Senior Law Day programs.

Bonnie L. Paul of the Harrisonburg-Rockingham bar said 150 people attended that program, which was held in a local high school on May 20.

The association budgeted money to underwrite expenses—primarily rent and refreshments. But the costs were offset by sponsors—for-profit and nonprofit business and government agencies that serve seniors. In fact, extra money was generated, which the bar association will either donate to legal services for seniors or save for the next Senior Law Day program, Paul said.

The vendors helped increase participation by telling their clients about the program, she added.

Six lawyers on the Harrisonburg panel addressed topics such as Medicare and Medicaid, long-term care insurance, nursing home care, wills and trusts, and abuse of and crime against seniors.

The program received good publicity, in advance and after the fact. Overall, “We were pleased,” Paul said.

The *Senior Citizens Handbook*—a joint project of the Senior and Young lawyers conferences—can be obtained from the VSB for three dollars each or a box of forty-four for thirty dollars. The book can be viewed online at www.vsb.org/site/publications/. To order, call (804) 775-0548 or e-mail harvey@vsb.org.

The Covington “blueprint” and other resources for organizing the program can be ordered by contacting Patricia A. Sliger at (804) 775-0576 or sliger@vsb.org.

Visit the
Virginia State Bar
online at
www.vsb.org.

Find information on MCLE,
professional regulation, free and
low-cost pro bono training and
volunteer opportunities, bar news,
meetings and events, publications
and more.

Edmonds Concludes NABE Presidency; Fairfax's Yvonne McGhee Receives Award

Virginia State Bar Executive Director Thomas A. Edmonds ended his year as president of the National Association of Bar Executives on August 3 at the NABE annual meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii. There, he passed the gavel to Allan B. Head, executive director of the North Carolina Bar Association.

Edmonds's tenure was dominated by Hurricane Katrina's effect on the legal systems of the Gulf Coast states—particularly Louisiana. Bar associations throughout the country responded with gifts of money and legal teams that went to New Orleans to help restore law practices, court systems and bar association services disrupted by the storm.

In Virginia, attorneys and law firms contributed about one hundred thousand dollars in response to a call by the VSB and The Virginia Bar Association.

Also under Edmonds's leadership, NABE formed a Section on Information Technology that drew eighty-five members in its first year. The section joins others on administration and finance, communications and government relations in helping member bar associations with the challenges they share.

Edmonds also set up a Professionalism Task Force, which presented programs and prepared materials on professionalism for bar association executives.

The NABE presented Edmonds with a print of a Virginia landscape painted by Fred Nichols of Barboursville.

During the NABE meeting, Yvonne McGhee, executive director of the Fairfax Bar Association, received a Peer Excellence Award for dedicated and energetic service to the NABE.

McGhee has been involved in many NABE activities throughout the 2000s. She is immediate past chair of the communication section, where she has led programming and membership activities since 2002. She is current chair of the association's small bar conference committee, and she has been involved in the metropolitan bar caucus since 2002. She received the Anne Charles Award and the "You Made a Difference" Award in 2005.



1: Edmonds (left) and his successor as NABE president, Allan B. Head.

2: McGhee, recipient of a Peer Excellence Award from the NABE, was congratulated by Edmonds.



Mandatory Continuing Legal Education MCLE DEADLINE: October 31, 2006

Failure to complete 12 CLE hours including 2 hours in ethics/professionalism by October 31, 2006 will result in a \$50 non-compliance fee. (See the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia Part 6, Section IV, Paragraph 19)

Check your MCLE Record on-line with the Member Login at www.vsb.org

Watch for your Form 1, End of Year Report in November
and be sure to follow the new instructions for proper completion.

Local and Specialty Bar Elections

Alexandria Bar Association

Foster Samuel Burton Friedman, President
Eugene Andrew Burcher, President-elect
Barbara Sattler Anderson, Secretary
Gwena Kay Tibbits, Treasurer
Seth Mark Guggenheim, Director
Todd Allen Pilot, Director
Arthur Erwin Peabody Jr., Director
Nancie Gallegos Kie, Director

Augusta County Bar Association

Paul Aaron Dryer, President
John Charles Wirth, President-elect
Rupen Rasiklal Shah, Vice President
Michelle Kelsay Bishop, Secretary
David Leslie Meeks, Treasurer

Chesterfield County Bar Association

Mary Phillips Adams, President
Duane Gregory Carr, President-elect
Alton Russell Watson, 1st Vice President
Melissa H. Hoy, 2nd Vice President
Robert Craig Hopson, Secretary-Treasurer

Fairfax Bar Association

Steven William Ray, President
Daniel Howard Ruttenberg, President-elect
Julie Harry Heiden, Vice President
David John Gogal, Secretary
Corinne Neren Lockett, Treasurer

Grayson-Galax Bar Association

Roger Dean Brooks, President
Monica Dawn Davis Cox, Vice President
Karen Marie Lado Loftin, Chancellor of
the Exchequer

Harrisonburg-Rockingham Bar Association

John Connor Holloran, President
William Wesley Helsley, President-elect
Mary Beth May Bostic, Secretary
Robert William Stone, Treasurer

Henrico County Bar Association

John Kimpton Honey Jr., President
Ellen Ruth Fulmer, President-elect
Christopher Hunt Macturk, Vice President
James Walter Hopper, Secretary
Stanley Paul Wellman, Treasurer

Local Government Attorneys of Virginia

Stuart E. Katz, President
Jan Leslie Proctor, Vice President
Joseph L. Howard Jr., Secretary-Treasurer

Metropolitan Richmond Women's Bar Association

Catherine Crooks Hill, President
Leslie Ann Takacs Haley, President-elect
Vanessa Laverne Jones, Vice President
Tracy H. Spencer, Secretary
Ashley Carlyn Beuttel, Treasurer

Newport News Bar Association

Barbara Hays Kamp, President
Edward Ira Sarfan, President-elect
Michael Scott Stein, Secretary
Helena Sue Mock, Treasurer

Norfolk & Portsmouth Bar Association

James Ashford Metcalfe, President
Donald Charles Schultz, President-elect
David Wayne Lannetti, Secretary
John Lockley Deal, Treasurer
Derek Francis Myers, YLS Chair

Northern Virginia Chapter, VWAA

Mary Catherine H. Gibbs, President
Debra Lynn Powers, President-elect
Cynthia Kaplan Revesman, Secretary
Mary Grace Anne O'Malley, Treasurer

Old Dominion Bar Association

Samuel Howard Woodson III, President
Beverly J. A. Burton, President-elect
Robert Allen Williams, Vice President
Regina Hope Turner, Secretary

Richmond Criminal Bar Association

William Pinckney Irwin V, President
Michael Arlen Jagels, Vice President
Christopher Anthony Bain, Treasurer

Roanoke Bar Association

Kenneth Brett Marston, President
George Alfred McLean Jr., President-elect
Mark Kenneth Cathey, Secretary-Treasurer

Salem-Roanoke County Bar Association

Aaron Tremayne Lavinder, President
Thomas Edward Bowers, 1st Vice President
John Stuart Koehler, 2nd Vice President
Leisa Kube Ciaffone, Secretary-Treasurer
John Christopher Clemens, Judge Advocate

The Bar Association of the City of Richmond

Hugh McCoy Fain III, President
Carolyn Anne France White, President-elect
William Reilly Marchant, Vice President
The Honorable James Stephen Buis, Hon.
Vice President
Gregory Franklin Holland, Secretary-Treasurer

Virginia Association of Commonwealth Attorneys

Michael Edward McGinty, President
Harvey Lee Bryant III, President-elect
Joel Robert Branscom, Vice President
Stephen Randolph Sengel, Secretary-
Treasurer

Virginia Trial Lawyers Association

Gerald Arthur Schwartz, President
Charles Joseph Zauzig III, President-elect
Matthew B. Murray, Vice President
Andrew Michael Sacks, Vice President
Edward Lefebvre Allen, Vice President
Sandra Martin Rohrstaff, Vice President
Lisa Palmer O'Donnell, Treasurer

Virginia Women Attorneys Association

Cathleen Kailani Memmer, President
Sheila Mary Costin, President-elect
Barbara Margaret Rewald Marvin, Secretary
Chandra Dore Lantz, Treasurer

Washington County Bar Association

Monroe Jamison Jr., President
Gregory Warren Kelly, Vice President
Cameron Scott Bell, Secretary-Treasurer

Winchester-Frederick County Bar Association

Phebe Kay Adrian, President
Thomas Alan Louthan, President-elect
Lt. James David Black, Secretary
James Anthony Klenkar, Treasurer
Michelle Morris Jones, Member At-Large

In Memoriam

James T. Adams

Lexington
November 1928–May 2006

Carter Tredway Gunn

Norfolk
May 1947–March 2006

William R. Perlik

McLean
May 1925–June 2006

Nathan Webster Albright

Las Vegas, Nevada
August 1955–August 2006

Roy G. Harrell Jr.

Saint Petersburg, Florida
September 1944–January 2006

Scott Arthur Richie

Mineral
December 1949–November 2005

Daniel A. Cerio

Falls Church
January 1918–March 2006

Ernest S. Heisley

Fairfax
November 1934–February 2006

Kenneth Leon Roberts

Williamsburg
July 1965–July 2006

James Edward Cervenak

Alexandria
June 1950–July 2006

Roger Bryant Hunting

Richmond
September 1920–June 2006

Frank Satta

Alexandria
May 1937–September 2005

Edwin S. Cohen

Charlottesville
September 1914–January 2006

The Honorable Randall G. Johnson

Richmond
June 1947–August 2006

Murray W. Seagears

Fairfax Station
January 1932–June 2006

James Frank De Deo

Vienna
February 1943–February 2006

John H. Kennett Jr.

Roanoke
June 1929–July 2006

Robert Gordon Shepherd Jr.

Reston
May 1941–October 2005

Robert R. Dively

McLean
October 1935–July 2006

Svein Jarl Lassen

Newport News
March 1947–January 2006

Stephen Kenneth Simpson

Reston
December 1955–July 2006

Jon Lee Duncan

Abingdon
November 1946–February 2006

Edward A. Linden

Tucson, Arizona
February 1943–November 2005

Richard W. Smith

Staunton
March 1920–May 2006

Joseph C.V. Ferrusi

Clinton, Maryland
November 1926–January 2006

Salvatore Frank Lorello

Midlothian
September 1943–January 2006

Timothy Robert Walters

Chatham Township, New Jersey
July 1956–November 2005

Jean Rouault Galloway

Fairfax
May 1925–May 2006

Nancy Lang Lowndes

Richmond
April 1958–June 2006

Paul Weeks II

Arlington
September 1943–May 2006

The Honorable William S. Goode

Durham, North Carolina
December 1914–July 2006

Sally Perritt McConnaughey

Amelia
January 1951–August 2006

Robert Emmett Wegmann

Corpus Christi, Texas
April 1953–June 2006