

# Senior Lawyers Conference— To Promote the Public Good

by Jack W. Burtch Jr., 2006–2007 Senior Lawyers Conference President



The Senior Lawyers Conference has a full agenda for the coming year. The outstanding leadership of Bill Wilson and the prior board and volunteers made our continuing programs grow. We started new programs, which have proved to be very popular. This year we plan to keep the momentum and energy flowing.

Working with the Conference of Local Bar Associations and the League of Older Americans, our conference will promote Senior Law Day presentations for senior citizens. Last year, conferences were offered in Roanoke, Harrisonburg, and Fairfax, Rockbridge and Loudoun counties. Through these programs we distributed the *Senior Citizens Handbook*. (To help your local bar association sponsor a Senior Law Day, we have an information package. To get one, contact Patricia A. Sliger at [sliger@vsb.org](mailto:sliger@vsb.org).)

We received a generous grant from the Virginia Law Foundation to reprint the *Senior Citizens Handbook*. Our challenge this year is to revise the handbook. Working with the Young Lawyers Conference and volunteer researchers and editors, we strive to keep this resource current and vital.

Our program at the Virginia State Bar 2006 Annual Meeting, “So You’re Going to a Nursing Home/Assisted Living

Facility,” was well-attended and sparked lively discussion. The speakers came from regulatory, legislative and industry backgrounds.

Former SLC Chair Frank O. Brown Jr. received the VSB General Practice Section’s 2006 Tradition of Excellence Award. Frank was a founder of the Senior Lawyers Conference, is editor of our newsletter and, unofficially, makes sure our leadership keeps on track. Frank has traveled the state, teaching lawyers what to do to protect clients when lawyers die or become disabled. He is a constant source of encouragement and inspiration for this conference.

**Of special interest to senior lawyers is the Emeritus Rule, which allows otherwise retired senior lawyers to practice in certain pro bono matters.**

Of special interest to senior lawyers is the Emeritus Rule, which allows otherwise retired senior lawyers to practice in certain pro bono matters. Proposed

changes to that rule and the rules concerning legal aid societies have been published for public comment.

One of our jobs as senior lawyers is “to apply the knowledge and experience of the profession to the promotion of the public good . . .” Please let us know how we can do this job even better. You may contact me directly at (804) 649-1543 or at [JB@MacBur.com](mailto:JB@MacBur.com). ☪