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Inserts

"Sherlock Holmes Goes
Digital" CLE registration flyer

PWCBF Silent Auction
Donation form
(not available in web version)

GDC 2003 Court Closings
Calendar

JDR 2003 Court Closings
Calendar

Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

News from the Prince William County Bar Association

Volume VII Issue IX

November 2002

President's Message

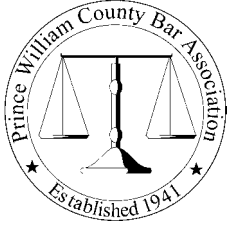
By Kathleen Latham Farrell

The PWCBA has never been as productive this year as it was in October. We launched the first multi-jurisdictional *Legislative Issues Forum* on October 9th. It was our first attempt at getting lawyers and lawmakers together to identify and discuss issues and potential resolutions in a non-confrontational arena. The feedback from all sources was so positive that we could only consider this to have been a success that bears repeating. We also sponsored our award-winning *Uncontested Divorce Project* CLE in October thanks to the efforts of the *pro bono* Committee and Betty Sandler, Allen Newcomb, Bob Cooper, Tim Szabo, Donna McIntosh, Judge Hamblen and Judge Millette. Judge Millette also appeared with Cathy Croft, Tracy Hudson and Tim Cope on behalf of the PWCBA at the multi-jurisdictional CLE that we co-sponsored on comparative practice in Northern Virginia. Meanwhile, Claire Keena was organizing the annual Character Counts program that we sponsor in the middle schools.

November promises to be a busy and productive month, albeit not quite as busy as October. The Executive Board of the PWCBA is pleased to announce that we have received approval from the Circuit Court bench to initiate a Conciliators Program for Friday Motion Days. John Whittington has volunteered to organize and implement this program, the plans for which he will present to the membership at our annual *pro bono* recognition event on November 1, 2002.

Promoting and sustaining *pro bono* services is a critical component in the PWCBA's effort to enhance respect for the legal profession in our community. This month we will formally and gratefully acknowledge the *pro bono* efforts of our members at our November 1st membership meeting. This is our annual opportunity to thank all of the members who have contributed their time and talent to implement and carry out the Uncontested Divorce project. It is also an opportunity for Turning Points to recognize and thank our many members who volunteered to represent victims of domestic violence in their petitions for orders of protection. John Whittington will be on hand to explain the Conciliators Program, our newest *pro bono* initiative. We are fortunate to have so many members who continue to support our commitment to maintain *pro bono* service as a vital service to our local community.

In addition to providing services to the community, we continue to focus our efforts to provide enhanced benefits to our members this year. One of our more significant accomplishments in this regard was the implementation of an interactive web site that provides our members with information, links, and a searchable membership database which will provide the public with another mechanism to find the many legal services offered by our members. If you were unable to attend last month's membership meeting, you missed the presentation by Cathy Lemmon who was solely responsible for transporting our information and ideas to the information highway. Our members are encouraged to visit our web site at www.pwcba.org and provide us with any constructive ideas on how we may improve this site.



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2002

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Res Gestae

By Kathleen Latham Farrell
President

Alissa Hudson, Angela Lemmon-Horan, Casey Stevens. On October 9, 2002 the PWCBA sponsored its first multi-jurisdictional *Legislative Issues Forum* at the Prince William County Campus of the George Mason University. Enormous planning and coordination was required to launch this event successfully and we were fortunate to have resources we found in Alissa Hudson, Angela Lemmon-Horan Casey Stevens, and all of the members who volunteered to be moderators and recorders for the break-out groups. Alissa Hudson brought this idea from concept to reality and she is to be commended for the extra miles she walked to carry out this event so well. We owe an enormous debt of gratitude to Angela Lemmon-Horan for her efforts behind the scenes to coordinate the issue identification between the three participating bar associations. It is no easy task to keep three bar associations focused on a common goal, but Angela was the right person for this task. Casey Stevens, with the help of the Criminal Law Committee, formulated, researched, and presented the Criminal Law issue for the forum. His contribution in this respect substantially contributed to the success of our program. We also acknowledge and thank each of our members who agreed to moderate and record for the breakout sessions. Through the collective efforts of these people, this event was successfully carried out and is destined to be repeated.

Betty Sandler, Allen Newcomb, Robert Cooper, Donna McIntosh, Tim Szabo, Judge Hamblen and Judge Millette. The Virginia State Bar presented the PWCBA with an *Award of Merit* for our *Uncontested Divorce Project* that provides a network of *pro bono* legal services, including counsel, commissioners in chancery, and court reporters for those who qualify for financial assistance through Legal Services of Virginia for an uncontested divorce. The PWCBA sponsored a CLE in October for the benefit of the Uncontested Divorce Project thanks to Betty Sandler, Allen Newcomb, Robert Cooper, Donna McIntosh, Tim Szabo, Judge Hamblen and Judge Millette. This CLE was offered free to members in exchange for agreeing to undertake two uncontested divorces qualified and referred by the program. Do not be fooled by the title, "Uncontested Divorce". This program contains some valuable information for the issues that frequently come up in contested cases. The quality of materials and presentation makes this program "a two-thumbs up".

Cathy Croft, Tracy Hudson, Tim Cope, Judge Millette. The PWCBA participated in a multi-jurisdictional CLE on the comparative practices in Northern Virginia circuit courts. The Honorable LeRoy F. Millette, Jr. appeared on our behalf to give the view from the bench in the 31st Judicial Circuit. Cathy Croft, Tracy Hudson, and Tim Cope appeared on our behalf to present the practitioner's view from the 31st Judicial Circuit. We thank each of them for their contributions that enabled the PWCBA to co-sponsor in this multi-jurisdictional event. The feedback received from this event suggests that the attendees found the content and presentation informative and well presented.

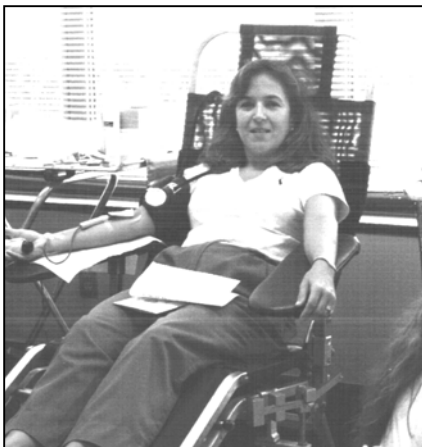
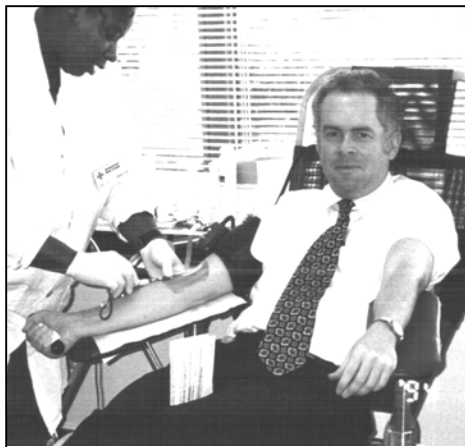
General District Court Update

By Peter W. Stekete, Chief Judge

The General District Court clerks have commented that it is becoming increasingly difficult to coordinate payment for court-appointed attorney's fees when the voucher or "DC-40" forms are received after a case has been closed and court costs assessed. For that reason we would ask that all vouchers and "DC-40s" be presented at the time a case is closed so that the clerk can properly calculate all court costs and properly inform the defendant of that which must be paid. In instances in which counsel is substituted for a court-appointed attorney, the voucher or "DC-40" should accompany the substitution order if a fee is to be granted. Substitution of counsel will not be granted in cases in which a court-appointed attorney is involved without the endorsement of the court-appointed attorney on a written order. If the order is endorsed and is not accompanied by a voucher or "DC-40" it will be assumed that the court-appointed attorney has waived his or her fee. Hopefully this procedure will not present a problem.

Blood Drive: Success Achieved at Last!

Thank you to the judges, attorneys, court services personnel, and office partners, who participated in the September 27th blood drive. A huge thank you to Judge Hamblen, Dave Mabie and the Sheriff's department for the last minute arrangements necessary to accommodate the set-up of the donor site at the PWC Judicial Center. (The mobile donor unit that was prearranged did not arrive, necessitating quite a scramble for space at the last minute.) And finally, a note of thanks to George DePolo whose office coordinated the drive. Ultimately, 13 pints of blood were donated, providing a potentially life saving gift to 39 people.



Bar members Michael Driscoll and Donna McIntosh roll up their sleeves for the American Red Cross

Please Remember: As 2003 approaches, the bar is seeking nominations for PWCBA leadership positions. It is time to consider how you may wish to participate in the PWCBA in the coming year.

2002

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The PWCBA Office is located on the lower level of the Judicial Center in the Circuit Court Archives. Alissa N. Hudson, the Executive Director, is generally available at the Judicial Center on Friday mornings. At other times, you may contact her by telephone as noted.

Guidelines for Submissions to *Hear Ye! Hear Ye!*

Submissions can be faxed to the attention of Alissa N. Hudson, Executive Director, Prince William County Bar Association at (703) 331-5683, or may be mailed to her c/o Prince William County Bar Association, Inc., P.O. Box 31, Manassas, VA 20108. All submissions are due by 5:00 PM on the 10th of the month preceding publication. Be sure to include a contact name and phone number with all submittals in case there are questions.

“Letters to the Editor” may be submitted for publication by members in good standing of the PWC Bar, and must not exceed 500 words in length. “Letters” may be edited for clarity or space conformity. All submissions must have a contact name and phone number, and will include the author’s name in the newsletter.

For inquiries regarding classified or display advertising, contact the PWCBA office at (703) 393-2306, and request a copy of the most recent rate card.

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2002 Legislative Issues Forum: Debriefing

By Kathleen Latham Farrell & Casey R. Stevens

The PWCBA sponsored the first multi-jurisdictional Legislative Issues Forum on October 9, 2002 in conjunction with the bar associations of Arlington County and Fairfax County. The forum brought the Northern Virginia legislative delegation together with members of the participating bar associations to focus on three issues of concern to lawyers, along with potential resolutions. After the issues were framed and presented at the forum, the participants were divided into small breakout groups to discuss one of the issues. A moderator was assigned to each breakout group to keep the discussion focused on the issue and alternative resolutions. A recorder was assigned to each group to record the discussions. At the conclusion of the breakout group discussion, the forum reconvened in the auditorium for a summary on the ideas that came from the breakout group discussions. A brief synopsis of those discussions follows: *Continued Page 5*



Attendees hear briefing of the issues as the forum begins.



Breakout groups discuss specific issues, and report back on their findings.

I. Family Law. GALs: Appointment and Compensation

The discussions focused primarily on the use and compensation of GALs and the difference in use and statutory differences in appointment of GAL and court-appointed counsel.

- The legislators seem to be satisfied that capping of GAL fees is not really viewed as a realistic resolution to the GAL issue.
- Legislators expressed concern that GALs were not adhering to the statutory guidelines which are meant to regulate their responsibilities.
- Practitioners believe that a formal standard of practice for GALs should be adopted in order to ensure proper representation.
- Practitioners believe that the judiciary should exercise more oversight over GALs
- Legislators seemed unaware that a GAL in the district court would not automatically follow the case on appeal. Absence of statutory authority for an automatic continuation of GAL representation on appeal would be required in light of the nature of a de novo appeal. Consensus that significant background and experience is lost by lack of re-appointment of GAL on appeal.
- Practitioners noted the difference in how the GALs were compensated between the Circuit Court and JDR. The consensus was that the Circuit Court Judges generally order the parties to pay the GAL; the JDR Judges generally order the Commonwealth to pay the GAL and the parties to reimburse.
- Significant differences emphasized between GAL and court-appointed counsel. Law needs to be changed to reflect the need, in appropriate circumstances for appointment of both GAL and court-appointed counsel; the roles of each are vastly different and often inconsistent with each other; appointment of one but not the other can present constitutional problems.

II. General Practice. Court Records in the Electronic Age

- Need to set up a framework to distinguish between the court information that the public should have access to and that which should remain private.
- Distinguish between what may be “public” (so that if you go to the courthouse you could get access to the documents) and what may be “public on the internet” which you would not have to go to the courthouse to obtain, from that which should be judicially protected from general public access.

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Diane P. Lewis
Young Lawyers
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Issues Forum, Continued

- Discussion of myriad of problems in trying to screen public v. public-on-the-internet material.
- Judges to be arbiters of what can be viewed?
- Consensus that the determination of what is on and not on the internet cannot be a clerical role.
- Balancing the interests of instant access to information v. the problems that can be generated by people having such widespread access to information that can be used for criminal activity (i.e., facilitating criminal activity). Discussion concerning the wealth and detail of information in Property Settlement Agreements and the potential abuse of that information on the internet can lead to.
- Consensus that immediate legislation is required in order to regulate the publication and distribution of this information on the internet.

III. Criminal Law. *Issuance of Subpoenas, Civil v. Criminal*

The following were the comments and suggestions from the breakout groups which discussed the Criminal Law Issues at the Legislative Forum. Specifically the groups concentrated their discussion predominantly on the fact that civil attorneys are permitted to issue their own subpoenas while criminal practitioners must still submit subpoena requests to the court.

- Regarding permitting Criminal Defense Attorneys to issue their own subpoenas like civil attorneys Delegate Albo indicated that the General Assembly was concerned that abuses would occur. Specifically, that the victim of a crime would be again victimized by overzealous attorneys issuing subpoenas for appearances and or documents in an effort to harass or intimidate. The General Assembly thought it important that the Court review such subpoenas for abuses prior to issuing subpoenas in criminal cases.
- Delegate Albo also indicated that if a bill were proposed to permit Criminal Defense Attorneys to issue their own subpoenas that to sell such a bill it would have to be labeled as a good government /law and order/economic measure or provide some additional benefit to the overall administration of justice as well as be sponsored by one who would be an obvious opponent to such a measure. This approach, according to Delegate Albo, is necessitated in that from a political view no politician gets reelected by assisting Criminal Defense Attorneys and thereby alleged criminals.

Continued, Page 7

Issues Forum, Continued

- Those who discussed the issue were concerned about the apparent second class status Criminal Defense Attorneys appeared to receive as opposed to Civil Attorneys in not being permitted to issue their own subpoenas as all are officers of the Court
- Delegate Rollison, during the full assembly, expressed concern about inmates issuing subpoenas to the Governor etc but was pleased to hear that no party, inmate, attorney, Commonwealth's Attorney, or civil litigant can do so without advance approval from a Circuit Court Judge.
- Judge Farris expressed concern about how permitting Attorney issued subpoenas in the criminal context would increase the use of private process service which he viewed as less reliable than the sheriff's department in that he does not put as much faith in their oath. It was suggested that Court approved private process servers might resolve this issue with attorney issued subpoenas.
- It was suggested that the Commonwealth's Attorney should be clearly given "standing" so that a motion to quash could be filed on the victim's behalf by the Commonwealth Attorney if necessary.
- It was suggested that any attorney issued subpoena should contain a list of rights that the individual served could pursue if he/she did not want to comply with the subpoena.
- It was suggested that other state rules, statutes and the Federal Rules should be researched in an effort to see how other jurisdictions handle this issue.
- It was suggested that specific checks and balances should be put in place to avoid abuses of the Criminal Defense Attorney issued subpoenas.
- It was thought ironic that it is more difficult for Criminal Defense Attorney's to issue subpoenas when the witness and documents subpoenaed by said attorneys are requested in the protection of a criminal defendant's liberty rights while civil attorneys are simply protecting money, property and interests.
- While off the subject a bit, the groups did discuss how unjust it seemed to be that in a civil case discovery is much broader allowing for a much fuller disclosure of information prior to trial while in the criminal context the criminal defendant, for example, need not even be informed prior to trial of the witnesses to be called by the government against him.

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Special Section: Focus on *pro bono* Services

Acts/Turning Points

By Sherri Quinn

The Protective Order Project

ACTS/Turning Points has enjoyed a partnership with the Prince William Bar Association since March 1997. During this time attorneys have represented petitioners of protective orders at their due process hearing. From September 2001 to the present, members of the Bar have represented 65 individuals. While some of you may have experienced a hearing of this kind, most of you have not seen the fear petitioners undergo as they enter the courtroom and confront their partners without counsel at their side. A Turning Points advocate can explain options regarding the protective order; the attorney can help them focus on pertinent information.

We will be celebrating Make a Difference Day on October 26. I would like to acknowledge the following attorneys for the difference they have made in people's lives over the past thirteen months:

Amy Ashworth	Bill Boge	Lou Brooks
Bob Coleman	Bob Cooper	Mark Crossland
Catherine Croft	Angela Gaddis-Moore	Robert Gregory
Kathy Farrell	Shelby Hadfield	Tracy Hudson
Polly Knight	Jim McCoart	Ray Morley
Bernadette O'Reilly	John Primeau	Sharon Soloway
Greg Stambaugh	Barbara Stough	Tim Szabo
Loretta Vardy	Arthur Von Keller	Mark Voss
Robert Walker	Jennifer Weiss	Russ Wells
Rick Wheeler		

I feel privileged to have worked with each of you and invite others to join our partnership. On behalf of the people you assisted, ACTS/Turning Points applauds your efforts.

Legal Services of Northern Virginia

By Naznin Saifi, Managing Attorney of the PW Branch of LSNV

The Uncontested Divorce Project

The Uncontested Divorce Project, a joint project with Legal Services of Northern Virginia (LSNV) and the Prince William County Bar's Pro Bono Committee, was created to assist low income residents of Prince William County in obtaining a divorce. The Project, now in its second year of operation, has assisted three (3) individuals in obtaining an uncontested divorce and is currently in the process of assisting twenty-seven (27) other individuals through this process.

Continued, Page 9

The Project, headed by Allen Newcomb, has been refined in order to better serve the low-income community and to better assist the *pro bono* attorney in representing these individuals. After an initial screening process to determine if the individual is financially eligible for LSNV's services and to determine if the individual meets the initial criteria for an uncontested divorce, the applicant is screened a second time to ensure that there are no outstanding legal issues that need to be resolved, such as child custody, visitation or support. Once the applicant completes this dual screening process, and all the necessary fees required by the court have been paid to LSNV, the case is assigned to a *pro bono* attorney.

The success of this Project depends upon the participation of attorneys and other professionals who are willing to give the time necessary to assist those who do not have the means to obtain a divorce on their own. LSNV would like to acknowledge the Prince William County Bar Association, the *Pro Bono* Committee, the Association of Legal Professionals, and the attorneys and commissioners for their continued support and dedication to make this project a success. The attorneys who participated in the Project during 2001-2002 were:

Marjorie Alexander	Richard Boatwright	Robert Coleman
Ralph Coon	Robert Cooper	Cathy Croft
Margaret DeWilde	Robert Faust	Steven Grist
Tracy Hudson	Donna McIntosh	Allen Newcomb
Janet Ours	Greg Porter	Ronald Robinson
Sandra Robinson	Gregory Stambaugh	Shelby Strassheim
Barbara Stough	Tim Ward	Jennifer Weiss
Richard Wheeler		

Editor's Note: On October 16, 2002, 19 attorneys attended the Second Annual Pro bono Seminar which provides training for attorneys that wish to support the Uncontested Divorce Project. The following attorneys were trained on 10-16-02, and will provide continuing support for the project.

E. Ralph Coon, Jr.	Bob Cooper	Catherine S. Croft
Kathleen L. Farrell	Robert R. Gregory	Shelby G. Hadfield
J. Douglas Lewis	Paul M. McDermott	Donna M. McIntosh
E. Allen Newcomb	John D. Primeau	Lawrie Falck Rollison
Barbara Stough	Timothy T. Szabo	Elaine Trautwein
Richard E. Vogel	Richard F. Wheeler	John D. Whittington
Thomas H. Wilson		

Conciliators Program for Friday Motion Days

By John Whittington

Please be advised that the Circuit Court has indicated its desire to consider private conciliators in an attempt to lessen the Court's Motions Day docket. If anyone is interested in becoming a conciliator, please contact John Whittington, Chairman of the Conciliation Program Committee at 703-590-6941, extension 3. A brief presentation regarding conciliators programs will be given at the PWCBA November luncheon meeting.

Upcoming CLEs

Prince William County Bar Association

November 14, 2002, 3:00 to 5:00 p.m., "Sherlock Holmes Goes Digital: Tracking Down Electronic Evidence", General District Courtroom #2. 2 MCLE credits pending.

Arlington County Bar Association

Call the Arlington County Bar Association at (703) 228-4465 for additional information.

November 19, 2002, 12:00 to 1:00 p.m., "The Virginia Business Trust", Davies & Davies, Barrister Square, (bring a bag lunch), 1.0 MCLE credit.

Fairfax Bar Association

Call the Fairfax Bar Association at (703) 246-2740 for additional information.

November 6, 2002, 4:00 to 8:00 p.m., "Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court Mandatory Court Appointed/GAL Training", Fairfax Courthouse Cafeteria, 4 MCLE credits, pending.

Law Library

By Robert Davis

Some materials which are not contemporary have been removed from the law library collection. They are materials which can be found among law-related websites. Please do not hesitate to ask the law librarian if you need helping finding materials. Robert will be happy to assist you.

Announcements

On Wednesday evening, November 20, 2002, the **Northern Virginia Chapter of the Virginia Women Attorneys Association (NVWAA)** will host its annual Legislative Reception in Oakton, Virginia. The format of the event will include a workshop from 5:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. entitled "Keeping Your Grassroots Green" conducted by Kymberly Messersmith, founder of KM Strategies and a current lobbyist for American Express. A reception for legislators from the Northern Virginia area will immediately follow the workshop, starting at 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. The event provides both members and non-members of the NVWAA with an excellent opportunity to meet the legislators and discuss current issues before the General Assembly. The cost of the event is \$20.00 for members and \$25.00 for non-members of the NVWAA. For further information or to RSVP for this event contact Brooks McElwain at (703) 591-1515 or email her at bpmcelwain@havrilaklaw.com by November 13th.

Two-thirds of all veterans appealing their cases to the new U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims in Washington cannot afford an attorney. In each case, the government is represented by an attorney. The **Veterans Consortium Pro bono Program** is seeking volunteer attorneys. Each attorney agreeing to accept on case will receive free training, a comprehensive veterans law manual (upon case assignment), pre-screened cases and on-going access to veterans law experts as mentoring attorneys. The next all-day veterans law training will be held at the D.C. Bar on Friday, November 15, 2002. CLE credits are available and malpractice coverage is provided for those not already covered. Court-awarded fees are possible in some cases. Call the Veterans Consortium at (202) 265-8305, extension 126 to register or extension 109 for more information.

Prince William County Bar Foundation

By Tracy C. Hudson

The Board of Directors of the Prince William Bar Foundation held its regular monthly meeting on October 17, 2002. Treasurer, Craig Johnston, reported that he is exploring the tax filing requirements for the Foundation. The Board authorized Craig to go forward with an informal audit of the Foundation's financial records. The Board was advised that \$1,922.00 was collected in honor of the retirement of Rick Perez from DSS. The funds will be used to support a scholarship for a Beat the Odds honoree. Judge Becker reported that efforts continue to locate and track potential honorees for the Beat the Odds program. Angela Lemmon-Horan is overseeing preparation of a grant application for this year's banquet. The Board voted to deny a grant request from the Fraternal Order of Police as not consistent with the Foundation's mission as set forth in the by-laws. Donna McIntosh is working to organize a committee to help with the silent auction to benefit the Foundation to be held during the Bar's Annual Dinner Dance. Anyone interested in serving on the committee should call Donna at (703) 361-0776. The Board further discussed a proposal to facilitate contributions to the Foundation in conjunction with the Bar's annual dues payments. The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on November 21, 2002 at 12:30 p.m. in the Grand Jury room of the Circuit Court.

PWCBA--Board Meeting Summary

By Susan E. Grogan

Kathy Farrell deftly led the Executive Committee through a tangle of announcements and discussions in its September meeting. Chief among the issues on the agenda was the upcoming multi-jurisdictional Legislative Issues Forum, which will be held on October 9, 2002 at 6:00 p.m. at the GMU Prince William Campus' Verizon Auditorium. Alissa Hudson reported to the Executive Committee on the registration process, moderator training, and the facility set-up. Kathy Farrell also apprised the Committee of 2003 budget preparations, the blood drive, the web site unveiling scheduled for the October membership meeting, and upcoming CLE's.

After announcements, the Committee addressed issues of concern regarding the judicial evaluation process, alternatives to the traditional oil or pastel portraits that have been commissioned for retiring judges, the Bar Foundation's request to add a line to our membership annual dues notice for donations to the Bar Foundation, the Youth for Tomorrow program, and three new membership applications.

Before adjourning, the Committee briefly discussed the creation of a fee schedule for Alissa's work in creating camera-ready advertising for the newsletter. The consensus, though the discussion was tabled, was that, given her time constraints, Alissa can only accept "camera ready" ads for the newsletter until such time as a fee schedule is approved.

Entertainment Committee Report

By Donna McIntosh

Mark your calendars for the **Bar's Annual Dinner Dance**. The event will be held at the Waterford at Fair Oaks on **February 8, 2003**. Music will again be provided by Retrospect. Invitations to Dinner will be sent in early December and reservations will be due by January 29, 2003.

The Bar Foundation will also be holding its second **Silent Auction** at the Bar Dinner Dance. Last year's auction was such a tremendous success, and we are hopeful that our second event will be even better! A committee is being formed to plan and run the event, and if you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact Donna McIntosh at (703) 361-0776. In addition, if you have anything to donate to our silent auction – sports tickets, weekend getaways at a resort, or other items or services – please contact me! A silent auction contribution form is included in this newsletter and may be photocopied if necessary.

Nominating Committee Report

By Amy M. Ashworth

Becoming an Officer of the Prince William County Bar Association is an important way to contribute to our continuing success. We are still seeking volunteers for the 2003-year. If you are interested in serving, the following positions are still available:

President-Elect (3 year term as follows: President Elect, President, Immediate Past President)
Treasurer (1 year term)
Judicial Screening Committee Member (5 year term)
Judicial Evaluation Committee Chairperson (Serving the remainder of Alan Shachter's term. Alan has resigned.)

Anyone can run for the following positions if interested in serving:

Secretary (1 year term)
Board of Directors (4 year term)

Please contact Amy M. Ashworth at 703-330-3200 or amaesq@comcast.net if you are interested or have any questions. We must have your name by November 10, 2002. Elections will be held at the January 2003 general meeting.

Bankruptcy Practice Section Update

By Scott H. Donovan

Frequently, non-bankruptcy attorneys have to file a claim in a bankruptcy case as a result of a judgment, lien or miscellaneous claim a client has brought to the attorney. The bankruptcy court is very particular about the format of any Proof of Claim. First, it must be on their form. Second, all exhibits must be reduced to 8 ½ by 11 inches. Third, never attach your originals to the Claim form. Send a copy with a stamped envelope if you want proof of filing. Also consider having a bankruptcy attorney file for your client since almost all bankruptcy cases are Electronically (ECF) filed and you must have all the software and have an account with the court to file in this method. ECF can be filed in a matter of minutes instead of days while you wait to receive confirmation of the court's receipt.

CLE Committee Report

By Cathy Croft

First of all, thank you to all who participated in coordinating or presenting CLEs this calendar year. Due to the efforts of the bar membership, our bar was able to sponsor an average of one CLE per month in 2002. The last scheduled CLE for calendar year 2002 will be held on

November 14, 2002; there will be no CLEs offered by the Prince William County Bar Association in December.

The CLE to be held on November 14, 2002 will be titled: "Sherlock Holmes Goes Digital: Tracking Down Electronic Evidence" Find out how to track down, acquire, analyze and present electronic evidence, learn the basics of computer forensics, learn how to choose and

choose and use experts effectively in litigation, and see practical examples of how easily electronic evidence can be fabricated or altered. The CLE will be taught by Sharon D. Nelson, Esq. and John W. Simek, the President and Vice President of Sensei Enterprises, Inc., a Fairfax-based computer forensics and legal technology firm. Paul Nichols will moderate. It will be held in PWC General District Courtroom #2.

Any person who offered a CLE in 2002 and who is willing to offer another CLE in 2003 (either similar or different) please contact Cathy Croft as soon as possible to schedule a date and topic each month. Any person who did not offer a CLE in 2002 but who is willing to offer one in 2003 is equally invited to contact Cathy Croft to schedule a date and topic.

Editor's Note: The annual CLE survey is enclosed, through which the bar solicits input from the membership on topics to consider for future educational presentations. The survey also provides a place for members to indicate their willingness to serve as a presenter. Please take a moment to complete the survey, and fax the results to the bar office at (703) 331-5683. Please also consider serving on the CLE committee. While the task of organizing and scheduling CLEs has been handled deftly by Cathy Croft this past year, she needs volunteers to staff the registration desk for each CLE. This monthly commitment can easily be shared by three to four volunteers over the course of a calendar year. Please call Cathy today if you are willing to help.

ALPS POLICYHOLDERS EARN A COMPLIMENTARY SUBSCRIPTION
TO VIRGINIA LAWYERS WEEKLY

There's at least one professional liability
insurance company in Virginia
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CLE SURVEY

TO: Members, Prince William County Bar Association

FROM: Cathy Croft
Chairman CLE Committee

RE: Mandatory Continuing Legal Education Survey

The Prince William County Bar Association is an accredited sponsor of MCLEs. To help us assess the resources we have available for providing programs from November 1, 2002 through October 31, 2003, please take a moment to complete this survey.

1. Are programs of 2-3 hours adequate, or would you like longer, or all day programs?

2. What program topics would you be most interested in seeing?

3. If you might be available as a faculty member, please complete the following:

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Briefly describe subject matter(s) of interest.

4. If you might be available to volunteer to staff the registration table at a CLE, please complete the following:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Please photocopy, complete, and return this survey to Alissa Hudson, PWCBA, P.O. Box 31, Manassas, VA 20108, or fax to (703) 331-5683, or bring to the December general meeting. All responses are due by December 6, 2002 .

Upcoming Dates:

November 1st, 12:30 p.m., General Luncheon meeting at Hero's. Program: Annual *pro bono* recognition

November 5th, Election Day, all three courts closed, clerks' offices open.

November 10th, deadline for bar leadership applications.

November 11th, Veteran's Day, all three courts closed.

November 12th, deadline for submittals for the December issue of *Hear Ye! Hear Ye!*

November 14th, 3:00 to 5:00 p.m., CLE, "Sherlock Holmes Goes Digital", GDC courtroom #2, 2 MCLE pending, see flyer inside.

November 25th, 7:00 p.m., awards ceremony for winners of Character Counts essay contest, McCoart Bldg.

November 28th, 29th, Thanksgiving, all three courts closed.



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Remember to RSVP for the Friday, November 1st General Luncheon Meeting. Program, Annual pro bono recognition luncheon featuring Sherri Quinn from Acts/Turning Points, Naznin Saifi with Legal Services, and John Whittington, chair of the new Conciliators program. Call Melodie at Kathy's office at (703) 335-9390 or the bar office at (703) 393-2306 by 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, October 30th to RSVP.

Lunch prices are \$5.00 per member and \$10.00 per guest.



Hear Ye! Hear Ye!
P.O. Box 31
Manassas, VA 20108

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A Publication of the Prince William County Bar Association



The Prince William County Bar Association
Presents...

Sherlock Holmes Goes Digital: Tracking Down Electronic Evidence

A Continuing Legal Education Seminar

Thursday, November 14, 2002, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.
General District Courtroom #2
Third Floor, PWC Judicial Center
9311 Lee Avenue
Manassas, VA 20110

Advance Registration: \$35.00 PWCBA Members; \$45.00 Non-members
Walk in Registration: \$45.00 PWCBA Members; \$55.00 Non-members

Speaker and Topics:

Sharon D. Nelson, Esq., President
John W. Simek, Vice President



With Paul F. Nichols moderating

These days, the smoking gun in litigation is often digital. Find out how to track down, acquire, analyze and present electronic evidence. Learn the basics of computer forensics, how to choose and use experts effectively in litigation, and see practical examples of how easily electronic evidence can be fabricated or altered. (Mel Gibson demonstrates.)

MCLE approval is pending for 2.0 Credits.

Please use the form below to pre-register for the Sherlock Holmes Goes Digital CLE
11/14/02

ATTORNEY'S NAME: _____

FIRM: _____

ADDRESS: _____

Please return this registration form to Alissa N. Hudson, Executive Director, Prince William County Bar Association, Inc., P.O. Box 31, Manassas, VA 20108 with your check made payable to the Prince William County Bar Association. If you are making a late decision to attend, you may fax your reservation form to (703) 331-5683 by 5:00 PM 11/13/02 and bring payment to the seminar. Of course, we always plan for a few walk-in registrants, (faxed reservations received after 5:00 PM on 11/13/02 will be considered walk-in registrations), but can not guarantee the availability of materials, and there will be a \$10.00 surcharge. This form may be photocopied.

VIRGINIA

IN THE GENERAL DISTRICT COURT OF PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY

TO: State, County, City and Town Police Departments, National Park Rangers, VA Dept of Game & Inland Fisheries, George Mason University Police Department, NVCC Office of Police & Public Safety, Area Bar Associations, Magistrates, Sheriff, Commonwealth's Attorney, Clerks of Juvenile and Domestic Relations and Circuit Court; Offices of Criminal Justice Services, Dispute Resolution, Bull Run ASAP Office; and Volunteer Action Committee.

FROM: Clerk's Office, Prince William County **General District Court**

RE: **2003 Court Calendar**

There will be **NO** General District Court held on the following days of 2003. Please be sure that all appropriate staff is advised of this schedule.

Wednesday	January 1	New Year's Day
Friday	January 17	Lee Jackson Day
Monday	January 20	Martin Luther King Day
Monday	February 17	Washington's Birthday
<i>Tuesday/Wednesday</i>	<i>April 22 & 23***</i>	<i>Spring Judicial Conference</i>
Monday	May 26	Memorial Day
Friday	July 4	Independence Day
<i>Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday</i>	<i>August 11, 12 & 13***</i>	<i>Fall Judicial Conference</i>
Monday	September 1	Labor Day
Monday	October 13	Columbus Day
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>November 4***</i>	<i>Election Day</i>
Tuesday	November 11	Veteran's Day
Thurs/Fri	November 27 & 28	Thanksgiving
Thurs/Fri	December 24, 25 & 26	Christmas

*** *Office open – DO NOT set cases.*

**VIRGINIA
IN THE JUVENILE AND DOMESTIC RELATIONS DISTRICT COURT
OF PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY**

TO: State, County; City and Town Police Departments; PWC Bar Association;
Magistrate; Sheriff's Department; Commonwealth's Attorney; City Prosecutors; Clerk, General
District and Circuit Court, Juvenile Court Services Unit, Office of Criminal Justice, DCSE

FROM: Frances H. Hedrick, Clerk of Court
Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

DATE: October 8, 2002

SUBJ: **AMENDED** 2003 Court Calendar

**THERE WILL BE NO JUVENILE AND DOMESTIC RELATIONS DISTRICT COURT ON THE
FOLLOWING DAYS IN 2003. PLEASE NOTIFY APROPRIATE STAFF OF THIS SCHEDULE.**

Wednesday	January 1	New Year's Eve
Friday	January 17	Lee Jackson Day
Monday	January 20	Martin Luther King Day
Monday	February 17	George Washington Birthday
Tues/Wed	April 22, & 23 **	Spring Judicial Conference
Monday	May 26	Memorial Day
Friday	July 4	Independence Day
Mon/Tues/Wed	August 11, 12, 13 **	Fall Judicial Conference
Monday	September 1	Labor Day
Monday	October 13	Columbus Day
Tuesday	November 4 **	Election Day
Tuesday	November 11	Veterans' Day
Thurs/Fri	November 27 & 28	Thanksgiving
Wed/Thurs/Fri	December 24, 25, 26	Christmas

**Clerk's Office Open