



November 2002  
Newsletter Sponsored by Lawyer's Staffing, Inc.



**LUNCHEON PROGRAM:**  
**The importance of an independent judiciary**  
Presented by David Baugh, Esquire

**DATE:** Wednesday, November 6<sup>th</sup>  
**TIME:** 12:30 p.m.

On November 6<sup>th</sup>, David Baugh will speak to the MRWBA about the importance of a constitutionally independent judiciary. Mr. Baugh entered private practice in 1983 after serving in the U.S. Attorney's Office.

Mr. Baugh's recent cases drawing national and international attention are *Commonwealth v. Barry E. Black*, *an Imperial Wizard of the Klu Klux Klan*, and *United States v. Usama Bin Laden*.

Mr. Black was arrested for burning a cross, with permission of the landowner, in Southwest VA in violation of Virginia's anti-cross burning statute. Although Mr. Black was convicted, he received only a fine for the felony conviction, and the Supreme Court of Virginia ruled that the cross burning statute was unconstitutional.

In the Usama Bin Laden case, David represented Mohammed Al-Owhali who was charged in the bombing of the United States Embassy in Nairobi, Kenya in 1998. He was a death eligible defendant, but the jury was not able to agree unanimously to impose the death penalty.

**LOCATION: Capital Club**

Three James Center, Fourth Floor  
1051 East Cary Street

**COST:** \$17 for members/\$20 for guests

**RSVP:** Laura White  
phone: 775-1409  
e-mail: lwhite@mcguirewoods.com

**PARKING:** James Center parking deck.  
Validated parking up to \$5.

**LOCATION: ANLIR (Video-Simulcast)**

4400 Cox Road, Innsbrook  
Directions on page 5

**COST:** \$17 for members/\$20 for guests

**RSVP:** Jennifer Crossland  
phone: 358-8000  
e-mail: jcrossland@pww-law.com

See page 5 for payment and reservation policies  
for both locations.



President's Column  
by Carolyn A. White

Last month I devoted my column to encouraging you to get involved in our mentoring programs, so this month I thought I would begin by mentioning the award the MRWBA bestows on the women who have already become our personal and professional role models.

The MRWBA Women of Achievement Award is presented every December at our holiday luncheon. The full criteria for the award are posted on the website, [www.mrwba.org](http://www.mrwba.org). However, in broad strokes, the award is designed to recognize women whose assistance and leadership have *made significant contributions to the community at large and to the legal profession particularly*.

Past award recipients are a veritable Who's Who of the central Virginia legal community, and include Darrel Tillar Mason, Mary R. Spain, Barbara Ann Williams, Virginia H. Hackney, Barbara L. Hulburt, Virginia S. Duvall, Patricia M.

Schwarzschild, Anne Marie Whittemore, The Honorable Jean W. Cunningham, The Honorable Anne B. Holton, Linda F. Rigsby, The Honorable Beverly W. Snukals, Claire G. Cardwell, The Honorable Bonnie C. Davis, The Honorable Elizabeth B. Lacy, Julie D. McClellan, Sharon Maitland Moon, The Honorable Kimberly B. O'Donnell, Virginia W. Powell, Debra J. Prillaman and Karen A. Raschke.

The deadline for this year's nominations is November 1st. I am certain that each of us knows at least one attorney who meets the award criteria. Please get your nomination package to Amy Schwab (786-3344) as soon as you can!

Next on deck is a renewed thanks to all those members who participated in last year's focus groups. The clearest recommendation that came from the focus groups was the addition of a West-End based lunch opportunity for our members. Based on that recommendation, we had a very successful trial of a video simulcast of the October CLE luncheon on preventing identity theft. So successful, in fact, that the board is now exploring continuing the simulcast as a regular option. The exceptions will be the December holiday lunch, the March legislative lunch, and the May business meeting. This, of course, would not be possible without the generous assistance of Donna Lange's offices at ANLIR and the hard work of our board members and volunteers. Make sure you give them your continuing feedback as we enjoy this new member benefit: Susan Atkinson, Jennifer Crossland, Michelle Harman, Jill Wells, and Laura White.

And, in the spirit of "the last shall be the first": our public service committee is soliciting your help with the MRWBA's signature state-wide public service project: the Understanding Your Domestic Relations Rights booklet. The MRWBA moved this project onto the state-wide level through a very generous Virginia Law Foundation start-up grant. However, it is now incumbent upon the association to find continuing funding for the editing, publication and distribution of this valuable booklet. Your board is exploring all options, including new grants, the sale of advertising within the booklet, and the limited sale of the booklets themselves. If you or your firm or company can assist in any way, please contact Tara Casey (819-5400 or [tara.casey@usdoj.gov](mailto:tara.casey@usdoj.gov)). It is unusual for a local bar association to have a state-wide impact, and we are proud to be among the tiny handful who do so!



## Committee Reports

MRWBA Committees are looking for new members to participate in annual, seasonal and one-time projects (especially for legislative, awards, mentorship and public service committees). If you're interested, please contact the appropriate committee chair listed on the right, or President Carolyn White.

The **Annual Legislative Luncheon** will be held this year at the Capital Club on March 5, 2003 at 12:30 pm. Please make plans to attend and save the date! We have already secured responses from two distinguished guests, Senators Stosch and Watkins and are calling other local senators and delegates to extend invitations to join us for the luncheon and to speak on legislative developments of interest to them and relevance to our membership.

Of course, it is not too late to join the legislative committee, so please contact Lisa Hudson at [lhudson@sandsanderson.com](mailto:lhudson@sandsanderson.com) with any questions, comments or interest.

### **Public Service Committee**

*MRWBA Pro Bono Network:* Paige Holloway has graciously volunteered to transform this idea into reality. As a result of our work with the Flagler House Curriculum Night, requests for pro bono legal assistance have increased. We hope to establish a network of MRWBA attorneys who would be willing to serve as pro bono advocates for the women of Flagler House, and possibly beyond. The Committee discussed many possibilities, including forging partnerships with legal service organizations and other bar associations. If you are interested in helping Paige with this project, please email her at [pholloway@lawmh.com](mailto:pholloway@lawmh.com).

*Community Service Projects:* Windy Venable has agreed to become our Julie McCoy of community service activities. Throughout the year, charitable organizations in the greater Richmond area sponsor events to raise awareness and education on issues that affect our community (like the upcoming Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk this Sunday). The Committee discussed how the MRWBA membership may be interested in participating in these events, as they serve worthy causes and do not require extended commitment. If you are interested in helping Windy with this project, please email her at [windy\\_venable@ca4.uscourts.gov](mailto:windy_venable@ca4.uscourts.gov).

If you have any questions about the Public Service Committee, or if you have ideas for projects, please do not hesitate to contact the co-chairs, Tracy Spencer (897-1515) or Tara Casey (819-5506, [tara.casey@usdoj.gov](mailto:tara.casey@usdoj.gov)).

## **2002-2003 MRWBA Board of Directors**

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285-8601 or [carolyn.white@dwlesq.com](mailto:carolyn.white@dwlesq.com)

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697-1489 or [carole.yeatts@troutmansanders.com](mailto:carole.yeatts@troutmansanders.com)

### **Committee Chairs**

Awards, Amy Hay Schwab  
786-3344 or [aschwab@oag.state.va.us](mailto:aschwab@oag.state.va.us)

CLE, Michelle Lam Harman  
784-2900 or [mchlaw@attbi.com](mailto:mchlaw@attbi.com)

Finance, Karen E. Dunivan  
698-6232 or [kdunivan@t-mlaw.com](mailto:kdunivan@t-mlaw.com)

Judicial Nominations, Ruth E. Nathanson  
342-1400 or [rnath@maloneyparks.com](mailto:rnath@maloneyparks.com)

Legislative, Lisa T. Hudson  
783-7234 or [lhudson@sandsanderson.com](mailto:lhudson@sandsanderson.com)

Membership, Renata M. Manzo  
788-8606 or [rmanzo@hunton.com](mailto:rmanzo@hunton.com)

Programs, Jennifer E. Crossland  
358-8000 or [jcrossland@pww-law.com](mailto:jcrossland@pww-law.com)

Programs, Laura R. White  
775-1409 or [lwhite@mcguirewoods.com](mailto:lwhite@mcguirewoods.com)

PR/Newsletter, Christine N. Bostick  
697-1320 or [chris.bostick@troutmansanders.com](mailto:chris.bostick@troutmansanders.com)

Public Service, Tara L. Casey  
819-5400 or [tara.casey@usdoj.gov](mailto:tara.casey@usdoj.gov)

Public Service, Tracy H. Spencer  
897-1515

Special Projects & Mentorship, Mary K. Hart  
796-1000 or [mhart@barnesbatzli.com](mailto:mhart@barnesbatzli.com)

Admin. Assistant, Karen Kerekes  
[nerak1983@mindspring.com](mailto:nerak1983@mindspring.com)



## Committee Reports

The MRWBA and the **Membership Committee** would like to welcome the following new members to the association:

Laura Aldridge, Boleman Law Firm  
Judy August, Charles E. August & Associates  
Pam Belleman, Troutman Sanders  
The Honorable J. Stephen Buis, City of Richmond  
Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court  
Margaret Hardy, Sands, Anderson, Marks & Miller  
Caroline LaFiura, Christian and Barton  
Gunes Ozcan, Williams Mullen  
Ashante Smith, Troutman Sanders  
Sharon Stuart, Boleman Law Firm  
Emily Towey, Crews & Hancock  
Windy Venable, Office of Staff Counsel for the 4<sup>th</sup>  
District Circuit Court  
Vanessa Wilson, Barnes & Batzli

If you have not renewed your membership yet, please do so promptly. We must receive your application and dues by October 31, 2002 in order to include you in the membership directory. You can download an application from the website at [www.mrwba.org](http://www.mrwba.org).



**Did you miss it?** At the October luncheon MRWBA member Mary-Ellen Kendall presented a CLE on identity theft. Among the tips to shared to protect your credit and prevent identity theft: shred those unsolicited credit card applications you receive in the mail; remove your social security number from your driver's license; tear up credit card receipts before disposing them; and check your credit report routinely.



**Can you hear me now?** Mary Hart, Rachel Spitz and Ashante Smith eat at the Capital Club while other MRWBA members in Innsbrook enjoy their lunch before the video simulcast.

The **CLE Committee** reports a very successful video conference CLE on October 2! More than 20 members and guests enjoyed a hot buffet lunch at ANLIR in Innsbrook and were able to join in the CLE program simultaneously with 40 downtown attendees.

ANLIR provided the conference space and equipment and initiated the call to the Capital Club. The majority of the west end attendees had not participated in a MRWBA luncheon and appreciated the convenience of not trekking downtown.

The MRWBA Board has decided to continue simulcasting MRWBA programs, with the exception of the Holiday Awards, Legislative Update, and May Business luncheons. A location in Southside is being sought.

As to future CLE programs, the CLE committee recently met with the Henrico Bar Association to discuss a joint evening program in November or January.

### **Notice:**

The Central Virginia Chapter of the Autism Society of America seeks a pro bono attorney to provide general legal counsel to its voluntary Board. The Chapter is a volunteer organization which provides information, support and encouragement to parents, family members and professionals in the Central Virginia area. In its monthly meetings the Board manages contributions made to the Chapter. For further information call Monica Smyth Schlessinger at 364-0009.

### **Notice:**

Help Wanted, Attorney – Opportunity in downtown Richmond office or working from home. Law firm serving 35,000+ Virginia Pre-paid Legal Service members, is seeking FT/PT general practice attorneys. This position requires excellent general practice knowledge, minimum of 2 years practicing, good standing with the Virginia State Bar and outstanding client service skills. Computer proficient a plus. Fax resume to (804) 440-7543 or email at [shamilton@frammelaw.com](mailto:shamilton@frammelaw.com).

The Greater Richmond Bar Foundation  
wants to thank our supporters and sponsors for a successful first annual

# LAWYER-PALOOZA

We raised over \$5000 for the Foundation and its programs.

## SPONSORS:

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Superior Document Services, and Troutman Sanders

## EMERGENCY FOOD DRIVE

The shelves of the Central Virginia Foodbank are bare and they need your help! The Public Service Committee asks each of you to bring several cans of fruit, vegetables or tuna fish to the **November 6 and December 4 luncheons**.

Why is this important? Children receive 59% of the food CVF distributes. Central Virginia Foodbank wants to ensure that every child living below the poverty level in our area has an opportunity for a least one meal a day. Please help them to ensure that no mother in Richmond has to send her child to bed hungry. All CVF funding comes from local donations, none from federal, state or local government. To learn more, check out their web site, [www.cvfb.org](http://www.cvfb.org), or call Executive Director Fay G. Lohr at 521-2500.

The food drive will be coordinated by Windy Venable ([Windy\\_Venable@ca4.uscourts.gov](mailto:Windy_Venable@ca4.uscourts.gov)) in both the Capital Club and ANLIR luncheon locations.

## **DIRECTIONS TO WEST END LUNCHEON:**

ANLIR is located at 4400 Cox Road at the corner of Cox and Waterfront Drive. Go to the multi-purpose room on the first floor. Complimentary parking available outside the building. Call Jill Wells at 565-1165 with any questions.

We're also looking for a Southside location. Call Mary Hart at 796-1000 if your Southside firm or company has video conferencing capability.

## **LUNCHEON POLICY:**

Payment should be mailed in advance to: MRWBA, P.O. Box 538 Richmond, Virginia 23218-0538.

All luncheon reservations must be made by the deadline specified. Reservations may be cancelled prior to this deadline. You must make a reservation even if you mail your check. No reservations made after the deadline are guaranteed. Limited walk-in spaces are available for each luncheon on a first-come-first-served basis.

If you do not attend the luncheon after making a reservation and do not cancel prior to the deadline, you will be charged for the cost of the luncheon. If you have made a reservation and cannot attend the luncheon, you may substitute someone in your place. However, you (or your substitute) must advise Laura White ([lwhite@mcguirewoods.com](mailto:lwhite@mcguirewoods.com) or 775-1409) of such substitution prior to or at the luncheon. If you have any questions about the billing process, contact Treasurer Anne Marie Cushmac ([acushmac@oag.state.va.us](mailto:acushmac@oag.state.va.us) or 225-3211).



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## Mark Your Calendar for Membership Luncheons

November 6  
David Baugh - "Constitutionally Independent Judiciary"

December 4 Holiday Awards Luncheon

January 8  
Ben DiMuro, VSB President

February 5 TBA

March 5 Legislative Update

1st Wednesdays of the month  
12:30 p.m. Capital Club

[www.MRWBA.org](http://www.MRWBA.org)

### Newsletter Items?

Send to Chris Bostick  
by fax at 697-1339 or by email  
[chris.bostick@troutmansanders.com](mailto:chris.bostick@troutmansanders.com)

Next Deadline: November 15



P.O. Box 538  
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