



April 2003 Newsletter Sponsored by  
Virginia Lawyers Weekly • Sands Anderson Marks & Miller

## Pro Bono and Public Service Opportunities

**DATE:** Wednesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>  
12:30 p.m. Capital Club



We have two dynamic speakers scheduled to educate us on pro bono and public service opportunities for attorneys at all levels of practice. Erin McDonald from LeClair Ryan will speak about the Richmond Protective Order Project and Christine Marra, one of our past members, will speak to us about needs and opportunities at Central Virginia Legal Aid Services. Join us and find out how you can put your law degree to use in the community, no matter what your area of expertise.

**LOCATION:** Capital Club  
Three James Center, Fourth Floor  
1051 East Cary Street

**PAYMENT:** Mail in advance to:  
MRWBA, P.O. Box 538  
Richmond, Virginia 23218-0538

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

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

**RSVP:** by March 31 to Jennifer Crossland  
358-8000 or [jcrossland@pww-law.com](mailto:jcrossland@pww-law.com)

### **NOTICE:**

All luncheon reservations must be made by March 31. 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 Jennifer Crossland (358-8000 or [jcrossland@pww-law.com](mailto:jcrossland@pww-law.com)) of such substitution prior to or at the luncheon.

If you have questions about the billing process, contact Anne Marie Cushmac, Treasurer ([acushmac@oag.state.va.us](mailto:acushmac@oag.state.va.us) or 225-3211).



*President's Column  
by Carolyn A. White*

## Swan Song

Well, this is the Swan Song for the President's column, but not the year - there are still plenty of activities ongoing, and several of them will continue through the summer months. We can be justly proud of the volunteerism and dedication of our fellow MRWBA members that carries on through the months when most other bars are taking a vacation.

As this column as being written, we have just declared war, which makes it a bit difficult to focus on anything at all. I will therefore be brief.

Our March 5th Legislative Luncheon was a roaring success, with nine members of our local legislative delegation in attendance and making remarks regarding legislative issues in which they had been involved this session. All the credit for the success goes to the hard work of Lisa Hudson and her Legislative Committee. As an added bonus, Lisa is applying for attendees to receive 1.5 hours of CLE credit for the luncheon. Be on the lookout for an email alerting you to the Bar's final decision on her application.

The sales of advertising in our *Understanding Your Domestic Relations Rights* pamphlet is ahead of budget, which means that we have fulfilled the Virginia Law Foundation's vision of taking their seed money to create a self-sustaining bar project. With the help of multiple VLF grants in the past, this publication developed state-wide demand, and the law firms and attorneys who use this pamphlet are now supporting its continuation. As we approach the General Assembly's veto session, Tara Casey (819-5400) and Tracy Spencer (897-1515x116) still have spaces available on their editorial board for the 2003 revisions to the pamphlet. Remember, they need attorneys who are familiar with family law as well as attorneys who are not.

Finally, I'd like to thank Carole Yeatts and her Nominating Committee for the careful consideration given to the proposal of the slate of officers and Judicial Candidate Endorsement members for the 2003-2004 bar year. Please mark your calendars now to attend the May 7 luncheon meeting to cast your votes for President-Elect, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, Historian, and our Judicial Candidate Endorsement Committee.

I leave you with a wish for peace, and one of my favorite quotes. It speaks of creating poetry, but I find it also supports me in my quest for justice:

This is what you shall do: Love the earth and sun and the animals, despise riches, give alms to every one that asks, stand up for the stupid and crazy, devote your income and labor to others, hate tyrants, argue not concerning God, have patience and indulgence toward the people, take off your hat to nothing known or unknown or to any man or number of men, go freely with powerful uneducated persons and with the young and with the mothers of families, read these leaves in the open air every season of every year of your life, re-examine all you have been told at school or church or in any book, dismiss whatever insults your own soul; and your very flesh shall be a great poem and have the richest fluency . . . *Preface to Leaves of Grass*, by Walt Whitman.

---

## Congratulations!

Donna Lange, Jill Wells, Wendy Inge, Anne Hill and Beth Paul (and 13 other former ANLIR employees) are now working with Minnesota Lawyers Mutual Insurance Company whose Prolegia program writes lawyer malpractice insurance coverage in Virginia and nationwide. Donna is in charge of Business Development and Wendy and Jill continue to provide risk management services and seminars. Anne is heading up the underwriting department and Beth is working in the claims department. The Richmond office will soon open. Contact them toll free at 800-422-1370 or [www.prolegia.com](http://www.prolegia.com).

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS AND OTHER NOTICES**

### **Richmond Women's Business Consortium**

Clair Harrington would like to thank all of the MRWBA members who served on the bylaws committee of the RWBC. The bylaws will be voted on shortly by the RWBC. A special thanks is extended to Andrea Harlow who tirelessly drafted and redrafted the bylaws.

There are two exciting opportunities for MRWBA members who want to be involved in specific projects. The first involves making a difference for children. The National Association of Women in Construction (NAWIC) is spearheading a project with the support of the RWBC to build an Accessible Playground for the Virginia Treatment Center for Children. You do not have to know carpentry or construction to participate; many other skills will be needed including gardening, painting, fundraising, and volunteer management. Please contact Ashley Hines from NAWIC directly at [crftmstrs1@aol.com](mailto:crftmstrs1@aol.com) if you are interested in this project and for more details on future meetings.

The second opportunity involves the joy of stuffing. Yes! You can help stuff bags with materials for the Southern Women's Show. The Metropolitan Business and Professional Women's Association (BPW) has volunteered to stuff these bags and in exchange, the RWBC will receive space to display information about the consortium. On an individual level, if you can volunteer at least two or more hours, then you will receive two free tickets to the show, which is always a great time. The dates and hours help is needed are: Wednesday, April 9 between 1:30 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. and Thursday, April 10 from 9:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. To sign up, please contact Debbie McCaffrey from BPW at [dkmccaffrey@earthlink.net](mailto:dkmccaffrey@earthlink.net)

If you are interested in being a part of the MRWBA's adhoc committee on the RWBC, please contact Clair Harrington at [Harrington@mgm-law.com](mailto:Harrington@mgm-law.com) or Mary Hart at [lawyerhart@aol.com](mailto:lawyerhart@aol.com). We would love to have your input.

Please note that the RWBC is a consortium of women's organizations which represents a diverse group of interests. The information posted on the RWBC's website is representative of those different interests in the consortium and is not necessarily reflective of the MRWBA's positions. The MRWBA does not endorse, takes no responsibility for, and exercises no control over the RWBC's website with respect to the views of the individual organizations, or the server's contents, nor does the Association vouch for the accuracy of the information contained therein.

### **Greater Richmond Bar Foundation Seeks Support for Legal Aid**

In April all lawyers in the Richmond metro area will once again receive a letter from the Greater Richmond Bar Foundation asking for contributions to support the work of the Central Virginia Legal Aid Society, Inc. (CVLAS). Last year's solicitation raised more than \$21,000, and it is hoped that this year's effort will generate even more funds to help the needy in our community.

The Greater Richmond Bar Foundation is a non-profit, tax-exempt charitable foundation which promotes pro bono legal services, education of the public, scholarships, project sponsorships and other public service projects throughout the Richmond area. Please respond favorably when you receive your letter. Donations received in response to this request are tax deductible and will be forwarded by the Foundation to CVLAS.

### **Richmond Protective Order Project**

The Virginia Bar Association's Young Lawyers Division is looking for volunteers for its Richmond Protective Order Project. The RPOP is an initiative to increase the number of pro bono attorneys representing domestic violence victims who are seeking permanent protective orders in the Richmond Juvenile & Domestic Relations Court. The pro bono attorney agrees to an in-court assignment one day every 4-6 weeks for one year. The attorney will represent victims who have been pre-screened for eligibility through the Central Virginia Legal Aid Society (CVLAS). CVLAS will provide malpractice insurance coverage for pro bono attorneys working through this initiative. Attorneys will also receive a manual and an in-court reference sheet with information about representing these victims.

If you would like more information, please contact Erin McDonald at 915-4113 or [emcdonald@leclairryan.com](mailto:emcdonald@leclairryan.com), or Sharon Cox at 353-6341 [sharontcox@yahoo.com](mailto:sharontcox@yahoo.com).

## Committee Reports Cont'd

### **Interested in a Leadership Role for the 2003-2004 Bar Year?**

Committee chairs serve on the MRWBA board of directors and are selected by the president-elect. If you are interested in chairing a committee next bar year, contact Stephanie Grana at [sgrana@cantorarkema.com](mailto:sgrana@cantorarkema.com) or 343-4372. Let her know your preference of committee: Awards, CLE, Finance, Judicial Endorsement, Legislative, Membership, Programs, Public Service, PR/Newsletter.

### **Public Service Committee**

For the past decade, the Metropolitan Richmond Women's Bar Association has provided the "Understanding Your Domestic Relations Rights in Virginia" booklet to organizations and agencies across the Commonwealth of Virginia, free of charge. This booklet is intended to educate the general public on legal topics, such as family violence and divorce, while also providing an overview of procedures in the circuit and juvenile & domestic relations courts of Virginia.

At the booklet's inception in 1991, distribution was limited to the greater Richmond area. However, in 1998, MRWBA began to offer the booklet to a wider market, thanks in large part to a three-year grant from the Virginia Law Foundation. In 2002 alone, we published and distributed approximately 15,000 booklets across the Commonwealth.

We are now focusing our attention on funding the 2003-2004 booklet, so that we can continue to provide this valuable resource. To help defray mounting costs, MRWBA is selling limited advertising space in the booklet to area firms and legal resources. For \$1000, your business can purchase a full-page advertisement in the 2003-2004 booklet, with half-page advertisements going for \$500. For as little as \$250, you can have your firm's contact information listed among the booklet's List of Friends. Please contact either Tracy Spencer, at 897-1515, or Tara Casey, at 819-5506, for more details.

We hope that you will consider advertising in the 2003-2004 booklet, and review the attached specifications and rates. The support of advertisers will ensure the booklet's future stability, and allow MRWBA to focus upon its content and distribution, rather than its mere existence.

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

### Officers

**President, Carolyn A. White**  
285-8601 or [carolyn.white@dwlesq.com](mailto:carolyn.white@dwlesq.com)

**President-elect, Stephanie E. Grana**  
343-4372 or [sgrana@cantorarkema.com](mailto:sgrana@cantorarkema.com)

**Vice President, Clair A. Harrington**  
359-3799 or [harrington@mgm-law.com](mailto:harrington@mgm-law.com)

**Secretary/Historian, R. Jill Wells**  
565-1165 or [jwells@reciprocalgroup.com](mailto:jwells@reciprocalgroup.com)

**Treasurer, Anne Marie Cushmac**  
225-3211 or [acushmac@oag.state.va.us](mailto:acushmac@oag.state.va.us)

**Past President, Carole E. Yeatts**  
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 or [Elley05@attbi.com](mailto:Elley05@attbi.com)

**Special Projects & Mentorship, Mary K. Hart**  
360-1871 or [Lawyerhart@aol.com](mailto:Lawyerhart@aol.com)

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

## Legislative Luncheon Wrap-Up

Greetings from the Legislative Committee! Thank you to all who attended the Annual Legislative Luncheon on March 5th. Your support of the MRWBA and this event was much appreciated. We packed the Capital Club with one of our largest luncheon attendances yet, with over 90 guests!

We were also extremely fortunate to have three senators, Senators Stosch, Marsh and Watkins and six delegates, Delegates Hall, Hargrove, Marris, McDougle, Nixon, and O'Bannon in attendance for our luncheon and panel discussion of the 2003 General Assembly Session legislative highlights. The discussion was lively and our guests graciously gave of their time and tailored their informative remarks to the interests and concerns of our membership.

We are currently applying for CLE credit for the Legislative Luncheon legislative panel program and will have more details available on the MRWBA website ([www.mrwba.org](http://www.mrwba.org)) for the completion of CLE forms if we get approval. Please stay tuned.

Also, as Carolyn White mentioned at the luncheon, once veto session is over, the Legislative Committee will be providing our annual wrap-up report to the MRWBA membership, just as in years past. If you have any suggestions for the wrap-up report or next year's luncheon that you would like to pass along, we welcome them to be sent to Lisa Hudson at [lhudson@sandsanderson](mailto:lhudson@sandsanderson) or 783-7234.

Thank you again and we look forward to continuing this successful annual tradition for the MRWBA.



Senator Stosch



Senator Watkins



Senator Marsh



Delegate O'Bannon



Delegate Marris



Delegate Hall

## Legislative Luncheon Cont'd



Julie Whitlock and Senator Stosch catch a word before lunch



Gail Jaspen (l) and Ginny Duvall chat with Delegates O'Bannon (l) and Hall



Lines formed early as MRWBA flock to the Annual Luncheon



Delegates McDougle (l), Hargrove (c) and Nixon (r)



Quick interview? Dawn Chase (l) from the Virginia Lawyers Weekly and Carolyn Lavecchia (r) speak with Delegate Marrs.

## Job Notice

The Virginia Department of Labor and Industry, Labor and Employment Law Division, is looking for a law student or recent graduate to serve as an unpaid part-time intern. Relevant areas of interest include labor and employment law, and administrative law. Flexible hours are available. The intern may begin as soon as possible. If you know someone who may be interested, please contact Jeannine Rose at 371-0463 or [jdr@doli.state.va.us](mailto:jdr@doli.state.va.us).

## Mark Your Calendar for Membership Luncheons

April 2  
Pro Bono Opportunities  
12:30 p.m. Capital Club

May 7  
Annual Meeting  
12:30 p.m. Capital Club

### Newsletter Items?

Send to Chris Bostick  
by fax at 697-1339 or by email  
chris.bostick@troutmansanders.com

Next Deadline: March 14

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



**We've Got You Covered.**

Get the latest legal coverage - in print, online and by email - with Virginia Lawyers Weekly. Your subscription includes Daily E-mail Alerts with breaking news, a searchable online Archive and many other time-saving features at [www.valawyersweekly.com](http://www.valawyersweekly.com).  
Subscribe today! - call 800-451-9998

- phone 1-800-451-9998
- fax 1-800-329-8478
- [www.valawyersweekly.com](http://www.valawyersweekly.com)

VIRGINIA  
**LAWYERS WEEKLY**



P.O. Box 538  
Richmond, VA 23218-0538

**SANDS ANDERSON  
MARKS & MILLER**   
A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

### *Changing Your Outlook on Legal Services*

From simple to sophisticated, Sands Anderson offers a wide array of legal services to meet your corporate, governmental or individual needs.

Richmond ⊙ Radford ⊙ Fredericksburg ⊙ Research Triangle  
[www.SandsAnderson.com](http://www.SandsAnderson.com)

801 E. Main Street, Suite 1800 Richmond, Virginia 23219  
804.648.1636 Tom Ebel, President