



Bar Briefs E-Newsletter

28th Judicial District Bar

December 2007

We still need your email address! Did you know the bar spends an average of \$2 a month per printed newsletter? Get the news timely by contacting our Bar Administrator by email at greta@ashevilleuncombelaw.net or 252-5733.

NOTICE OF December 14th, 2007 Bar Holiday Party & Toy Drive: You can drop your toys off at the bar office: 64 Broadway or at other locations.

President's Message: Judge Calvin Hill

Thanks for the fantastic turn out at the public Defender nomination event. We had one of the largest crowds ever. Bob Hufstader was present and received a thank you plaque from the bar for his almost 30 years of service. The nominations were completed and the three names have been sent to **Judge Winner. Leann Melton** was the top vote getter followed by **Faye Burner** and then **Todd Williams**. **Judge Winner** has already interviewed the candidates and expects to make a choice sometime the week of **December 17th**. Keep in mind he is not bound by the numbers in terms of his choice.

Judge Reidinger's investiture ceremony will be held the **19th of December** on the 5th floor. That event will be followed by a reception on the first floor. Thanks for those of you who were willing to give for this event...the monies were later provided by another source.

As we enter the Holiday season be reminded that our community has many children who will not have a good Christmas without our help. Our bar has a tradition of giving to these children for many years and I know we will continue to do so this year. Thanks for your help and for your support in all that we do as a bar. We welcome your ideas about speakers and other bar related matters

CALENDAR

- 12/03 Executive Committee Meeting 12:30 pm
- 12/14 Holiday/Toy Drive Party 5:30 pm
- 12/19 Women's lunch 12:30 pm
- 12/19 Investiture Ceremony Judge Reidinger 2:30pm, 5th floor Courthouse Rotunda
- 1/09 Bar Lunch & Meeting
- 1/16 Women's lunch 12:30 pm
- 1/21 Cut the Risk Fund-raiser sponsored by our bar's local chapter of NCAWA

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
 ★ A special thanks to our ★
 ★ holiday party sponsors: ★
 ★ **Attorney's Title** ★
 ★ **Legal Copy Inc.** ★
 ★ **Eugene W. Ellison, PA** ★
 ★ **Howard McGlohon, PA** ★
 ★ They've contributed sup- ★
 ★ port to our bar's Holiday ★
 ★ Party in December. We ★
 ★ appreciate and thank you. ★
 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Upcoming Events

CLE Opportunity

National Business Institute is holding a CLE on E-Discovery on **December 11, 2007** in Asheville at the Crowne Plaza Resort. Please contact NBI directly at **800-930-6182** or visit their website at www.nbi-sems.com. The CLE is worth 6 credits.

Holiday/Charity Toy Drive Party for all Bar Members on Friday, December 14.

Bar Holiday Party
& Toy Drive

Friday
December 14, 2007
Starts at 5:30 pm
At Off Broadway

Celine and Company is our cater again for this year's party. It will be held at **Off Broadway on 49 Broadway** from **5:30 pm til 9:30 pm**. We would like to gather as many toys as possible for Santa Pals.

The Optimist club works with Santa Pals **Bentley Leonard, Roger Smith, and David Gantt** who are bar members and also members of the Optimist Club and Santa Pal Project. They have been involved for many years.

The Optomist have been working with Santa Pals since 1936, the first year of the operation of Santa Pal, 500 children of diverse backgrounds and ethnicity were served. In 1937 over 1,000 were served, and by the fourth year, 1,500 children ages 2 – 12 were served. This number has continued to grow each year: in 2004, Santa Pal served 3,100 children, and in 2005 Santa Pal served 3,300 children from 1,350 African-American, Hispanic, Haitian, Russian, Ukrainian, and Caucasian families of Asheville/Buncombe County. In 2006, we served **3,500** children and we expect approximately the same number this year – **our 72nd year of this project**, with **99.9%** of all toys are provided **for children of Buncombe County**. If, however, on Christmas Eve, a family from out of town arrives at our doors, we do not turn them away. We will provide them in the best way that we can. These families live in poverty, often single parent families; where parents have lost their jobs; and often where children are being cared for by grandparents. An application process is used to schedule families for gift pick-up. We listen to every story, because everyone who walks through our doors has a financial issue. If a family includes children under 2 or over 14, we determine if the family can provide for them. If not, we will go the extra mile to assure that no child is left behind at Christmas. Santa Pal provides Christmas cheer and joy and helps to build self-esteem! Many times, the applicant is a family where the parent(s) have lost their jobs or there has been an illness or death in the family, all leading to financial despair. Santa Pal provides gifts so that the children do not feel “different”, “embarrassed”, or “alone”.

Santa Pal brings the community and special groups together to raise funds through projects, events, bike-a-thons, etc. Again, in 2005, over 300 bicycles were donated by the local bicycle shops and individuals of the community. The goal for 2007 is \$50,000 for toys, games, gifts, balls, etc. You may drop off toys directly at the following locations: The bar office at **64 Broadway** (2nd floor), the Santa Pal location at the **Innsbrook Mall** – 2nd Floor (where the Christian bookstore), or at **Party Blvd. store** in Skyland. There phone number is **828-258-3230** and there mailing address is: **Santa Pal, PO Box 1912, Asheville, NC 28802**. **Mike Harris** is the 2007 Santa Pal Chairman and (was chairman also in 2005 and 2006). Thank you to **Dusty Ples** who contributed an article for us to use for this newsletter.



If you know how to shop for young girls ages nine through twelve, this would be greatly appreciated in directing your efforts for this age group. Santa Pals says this is the hardest group to buy for.

Upcoming Events Continued

December 19, 2007 Investiture Ceremony and Reception for Federal District Court Judge Martin K. Reidinger

All members are encouraged to attend the Investiture Ceremony and Reception for **Judge Martin K. Reidinger** as Federal District Court Judge for the Western District of North Carolina, which will be held on **Wednesday, December 19, 2007** beginning at **2:30 P.M.** in the 5th Floor Courtroom of the Buncombe County Courthouse. The **Honorable Robert J. Conrad, Jr.**, Chief Federal District Court Judge for the Western District of North Carolina, will preside at the Investiture Ceremony.

Judge Reidinger, formerly a partner with the Asheville firm of **Adams, Hendon, Carson, Crow & Saenger**, has served the 28th Judicial District Bar with distinction, including his service as President of our bar in 2005.

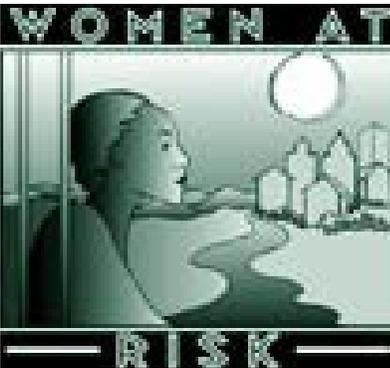
The 28th JDB is arranging the *reception*, which will be held in the Courthouse Rotunda immediately following the ceremony. Funding for the reception is provided by the **WDNC Attorney Mission Fund**. We are pleased and honored that the Investiture Ceremony for Judge Reidinger will be held in Asheville, and hope as many members as possible will plan to attend. A special thanks to **Bill Whalen** and **Frank Johns** for helping with this event and securing funding for the reception.



Buncombe County Women Attorneys Monthly Luncheon

All Buncombe County women attorneys are invited to the informal monthly lunch at Cafe on the Square in downtown Asheville at **12:30 p.m.** on **Wednesday, December 19 2007**. Please *RSVP* to **Sheila Lambert** at slattorney@aol.com by noon on **Tuesday, December 18, 2007**.

PAMPER YOURSELF AND BENEFIT THE WOMEN AT RISK PROGRAM



The **WNC Chapter of NCAWA** will Sponsor the 6th Annual *Cut-the-Risk Benefit*, on Monday, **January 21, 2008** (Martin Luther King Holiday). Area Salons and Spas will volunteer their time to provide haircuts, massages, facials and manicures at reduced costs with all proceeds benefiting the Women at Risk Program. Cut-the-Risk Gift cards will be available at the **Bar Christmas party** on **December 14**. Sponsored by Western Carolinians for Criminal Justice, the Women At Risk Program is a state-licensed, community-based treatment program for female offenders whose successful outcomes have gained national recognition.

Bar Meeting & Luncheon

There is **no** meeting in December 2007. The next monthly luncheon meeting of the 28th Judicial District Bar will convene at 12:30 on **Wednesday, January 9, 2008** at the YMI Cultural Center, 39 South Market St. Cost of the luncheon is \$10 for members and \$18 for guests. Please email by Monday **January 7, 2008**, your *RSVP* to greta@ashevillebuncombela.net. You may pay by cash or check at the door. UNCA women's basketball **Coach Bloise** will be our speaker for our January meeting.

Awards and Honors

Pisgah Legal Services Honors Local Attorneys and Celebrates 29th Anniversary at Jazz for Justice

Pisgah Legal Services *Jazz for Justice* event last month on November 7 honored many volunteers and donors as well as celebrated 29 years of providing free civil legal services to low-income people in Western North Carolina. Pisgah Legal Services screened more than 7,500 requests for services in 2006. Over 300 volunteer attorneys, donated more than 2,260 professional hours modestly value at \$339,000. Over \$ 6.5 million was accessed for their clients in quantifiable benefits. In 2007, **Mountain Area Volunteer Lawyers Program of PLS** was awarded the NC Bar Association's Chief Justice Award.



Kerry Friedman (pictured far left) of **Patla Straus Robinson & Moore** was honored with the Board Member Emeritus Award. Kerry is in his twenty-sixth year as a volunteer attorney.

Larry McDevitt (pictured above and on right) of the **Van Winkle Law Firm** received the Roy Davis Award. A group picture (on right) was taken of the honorees at the Jazz for Justice Event.



Members Earning Certifications

Bill Wolcott of **William F. Wolcott, III, P.A.** is pleased to announce that he has been certified by the *Dispute Resolution Commission to conduct Mediations before the Clerk of Superior Court*. Bill has been active as a Mediator and conducting mediated settlement conferences since 1994 as a **DRC-certified Mediator for Superior Court** civil actions.

Jim Siemens is proud to announce that he has been certified by the North Carolina State Bar as a *Specialist in the area of Family Law*. Jim received his BA from UNC Chapel Hill in 1989 and his JD from Tulane University in New Orleans in 1993. Jim started his law practice in Asheville in 1994 and his office is presently located at 202 E. Chestnut St. in the historic Chestnut Hills neighborhood. Jim is available for consultations in regard to separation, divorce, child custody, child support, spousal support, alimony and equitable distribution at 252-5080, or on the web at www.wnclaw.com.

Membership News

Share your news! Whether professional or personal, we want to share your significant news with other members of the bar. Contact greta@ashevillebuncombela.com or 252-5733 by Dec. 10th for Jan. news.

Welcome New Members:

Please give a warm welcome to **John Pritchard** who has joined as a new member.

Please welcome new member: **Vincent Rabil** of **Crumpler, Freedman, Parker & Witt of Winston-Salem**. Vince has opened an office here on 17 North Market Street, Suite 2, Asheville, NC 28801. He can be reached by email at vince@cfplaw.com or by phone at 336-725-1304.

Elizabeth "Beth" Cramer joins **Goosmann Rose, P.A.** real estate firm **Goosmann Rose, P.A.** at 77 Central Avenue, Suite H, Asheville, NC 28802. She is licensed by and a member of the North Carolina Bar Association, receiving her Juris Doctor earlier this year from the Appalachian School of Law in Virginia, where she graduated *Magna Cum Laude* and served as the Editor-in-Chief of the Appalachian Journal of Law. Cramer is excited about moving forward with the Goosmann Rose team, and in starting her legal career in the Buncombe County and surrounding areas. Beth can be reached by phone at (828)258-0150, by fax at: (828) 258-1305, or by email at ecramer@grlawpa.com.

Happy Announcements:

Congratulations to **Michael Dyer** who with his wife **Nora** became proud grandparents. This is an excerpt of Michael's email. "Virtual cigars to you, my friends, relatives and colleagues!!! Nora and I announce the birth of our first grandchild, **Sydel Kahlan**, born at 10:21 p.m. on a historic baseball night, Tuesday, October 24, 2007. Her mom, my eldest, Jessica, had been in induced labor for 15 hours and the decision was made by her and her husband John, to deliver by Caesarian for the sake of the baby. Sydel weighed 5 lbs. 4 ounces and was 17 inches. Thank you for your prayers and support!!! Ciao, Michael."

Perry Fisher is pleased to announce the opening of his office. If you would like to reach Perry you may contact him at **Perry Fisher, P.A.**, telephone (828) 505-4300; facsimile (828) 505-4302; email: perry@perryfisherlaw.com.

Position Sought:

I have 2 excellent students graduating at the end of this quarter. They are both bright, industrious, and well-organized. They would be an asset to any law office. They are looking for employment, preferably full-time and preferably with health insurance. If anyone is interested in interviewing them, I can be reached at jrudolph@southcollegenc.com or 277-5521. Please contact **Judy N. Rudolph**, Chair of Legal Studies Department at South.

Items for Sale:

Law Books for Sale: Reasonable offers considered at 21 Page Ave, contact **Paul Rifkin** at 252-1333.

For Sale: Brand new Verizon pay as you go camera **phone**, \$55 (half of retail price), includes charger and manual. Please call Savannah at 686-0658.

Metal filing cabinet for sale, \$50.00. Contact **T. Bentley Leonard**, (828) 255 0456 .

Greetings From Your Bar Administrator

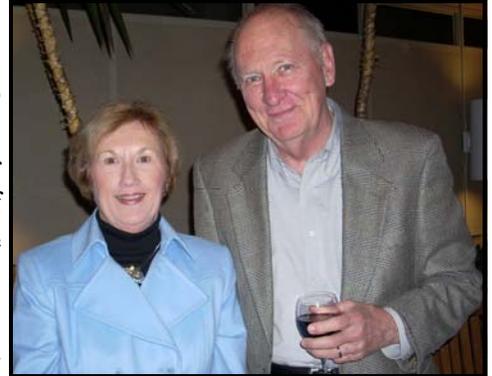
Dear Members:



Happy Holidays! I am looking forward to our toy drive and holiday party. It will be fun to see all of you kick back, relax, and have some fun while enjoying yourselves after hours. Last year we gathered a lot of toys for children less fortunate and I hope that we can continue that generous tradition. Our sponsors: **Attorney's Title, Legal Copy Inc., Eugene W. Ellison, PA, and Howard McGlohon, PA.** have our heartfelt thanks.

You can contribute toys even if you are unable to attend this event. Toys may be left at any of the locations described on page two. We were one of the largest donors for Santa Pals last year. You may also support our local chapter of **WNC Chapter of NCAWA** by purchasing tickets for the Cut the Risk (see page 3).

Last month we had the opportunity to see the original copy of the Bill of Rights for our state of North Carolina as it was on display at UNCA. The bar supported the event with a contribution that helped with transportation of school children and a beautiful reception in the Glass House next to the UNCA library. Pictured right are some of our members and spouses at the reception at UNCA. The document will be housed in our state archives in Raleigh, NC



We also had the opportunity to celebrate all of the hard work in volunteer hours so many of you have contributed to your community at the Jazz for Justice Event held by **Pisgah Legal**. We are proud of you all.



So many of you are doing interesting things in your professional lives as well as your personal lives. We encourage you to share in bar sponsored activities and share your stories of triumphs. Thank you for your continued support.



Sincerely,

Greta Camp

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE BOARD

President: Judge Calvin Hill

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Vice President: Heidi Stewart

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Secretary: Doug Tate

Treasurer: Victor Garlock

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