



**Bar Briefs E-Newsletter**

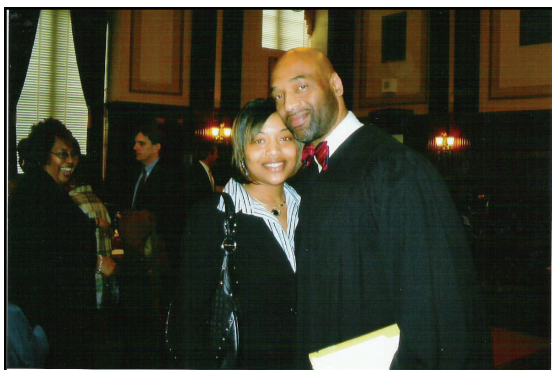
April 2008

**Would you like to get a professional photograph taken to update your website as well as our own?** You will need to call the bar office at 252-5733 to make an appointment (see page 8 for details). We have a limited number of spots still available. Our bar's website address is [www.ashevillebuncombela.com](http://www.ashevillebuncombela.com).

**NOTICE OF April 9, 2008 Bar Lunch Meeting**

The next monthly luncheon meeting of the 28th Judicial District Bar will convene at 12:30 p.m. on **Wednesday, April 9, 2008** at the YMI Cultural Center, 39 South Market St. Cost of the luncheon is \$10 for members and \$18 for guests. Please **RSVP** by **Monday, April 7, 2008** to [greta@ashevillebuncombela.com](mailto:greta@ashevillebuncombela.com). You may pay by cash or check at the door.

**President's Message: Judge Calvin Hill**





*Judge Hill pictured with his daughter Kallison after his swearing in ceremony last year.*

The March meeting was well attended. One of the guest speakers was **Justice Paul Newby** who received an entertaining introduction from **Roy Davis**, a senior partner at

**Van Winkle Law Firm**. Justice Newby was an attorney at the Van Winkle Law Firm earlier in his career. Justice Newby, who will be seeking re-election, gave pointers on how to present the most effective case at the Supreme court level. The Justice received a stern warning from **O.E. Starnes** to "move on" when the Justice started to reminisce about an incident where thieves didn't think Mr. Starnes suits were worth stealing. Mr. Starnes is also a senior partner at Van Winkle. **Judge Arrowwood** of the N.C. Court of Appeals was also on hand to talk about presenting the best case at that level. We look forward to seeing you at the April meeting for the Pisgah Event held annually to honor members of our bar.

**CALENDAR**

- 4/04 **Justice 4ALL at WLOS 7 a.m. -7 p.m.**
- 4/07 **Executive Committee Meeting 12:30 p.m.**
- 4/09 **Bar Lunch & Meeting Pro Bono Awards**
- 4/15  **HomeTrust Bank's Appreciation Lawyers & Associates Tourist Ballgame, 7 p.m.**
- 4/16 **Women Attorneys' Luncheon**
- 4/21  **HomeTrust Bank's Appreciation Lawyers & Associates Tourist Ballgame, 7 p.m.**
- 5/01 **Law Day, WOW Awards 6 p.m.**
- 5/05 **Executive Committee Meeting 12:30 pm**
- 5/14 **Bar Lunch & Meeting**
- 6/02 **Executive Committee Meeting 12:30 p.m.**
- 6/06 **Memorial Ceremony**
- 6/11 **Bar Lunch & Meeting**

## Upcoming Events

Our next monthly luncheon meeting of the 28th Judicial District Bar will convene at 12:30 p.m. on **Wednesday, April 9, 2008** at the YMI Cultural Center, 39 South Market St. The cost of the luncheon is \$10 for members and \$18 for guests. We will also have a birthday cake to celebrate MAVLP's 25 years. A professional photographer will be at the YMI to take your picture. Please call the bar office to make your appointment **today**. The cost is \$10 for your photo on CD. (See page 8 for details.)

### **April 9 Bar Lunch Celebrates Pro Bono Award Nominees, PLS and MAVL Anniversaries**

“On behalf of the Pro Bono Committee, all members are encouraged to attend the April 9, 2008 monthly bar meeting for our Annual Pro Bono Awards Luncheon. In addition to recognizing the exemplary pro bono service of this year's nominees for the 2008 William L. Thorp NCBA Pro Bono Service Award, we will be celebrating the pro bono service accomplishments of our 28th Judicial District Bar on this, the 30th anniversary of Pisgah Legal Services and the 25th anniversary of the Mountain Area Volunteer Lawyer Program (MAVLP).

Through its leadership on the PLS Board of Directors, its MAVLP pro bono services, and financial support, the 28th Judicial District Bar shares much of the credit for the fact that in 2007, PLS staff and MAVL volunteers combined to serve over 9,000 low-income children and adults with civil legal issues affecting basic needs.

We hope all members who can will attend to congratulate our pro bono award nominees and to celebrate our Bar's outstanding tradition of organized pro bono service to the poor over the last 30 years. If you have any questions, you can contact the administrator of the Mountain Area Volunteer Lawyers Program (MAVL) & Staff Attorney, **Jennifer N. Foster** at **Pisgah Legal Services** by phone: 828-253-0406 or email: [jennifer@pisgahlegal.org](mailto:jennifer@pisgahlegal.org).

### **Volunteers Needed for April 4, 2008, 4ALL Service Day “Ask A Lawyer” Project**

At the request of the North Carolina Bar Association (NCNB), the 28<sup>th</sup> **Judicial District Bar Pro Bono Committee** and **Pisgah Legal Services** are pleased to support and to encourage local attorneys to participate in the statewide NCBA 4ALL Service Day “Ask a Lawyer” project to be held on April 4, 2008. Volunteer attorneys statewide will staff eight regional call-in centers which will offer the public free time to speak with an attorney confidentially throughout the day. Locally, **WLOS** has agreed to provide our local call-in center, which will have 8 phone lines to be covered by volunteer attorneys serving in 3 hour shifts from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM. PLS has committed it's staff attorneys to participate throughout the day.

The 4ALL Service Day is part of the NCBA's “**Justice 4ALL of North Carolina**” Campaign committing its resources in support of making legal services available to all North Carolinians. The event will be advertised statewide and promoted by WLOS Television. Given the exemplary tradition of pro bono service by our bar, we hope all members who can will volunteer for the event. “**Information for Attorney Volunteers on 4All Service Day**” and email registration forms are available at the NCBA's website, [NCBar.org](http://NCBar.org) (click on the 4ALL logo, then go to “Participate” on the next page. See <https://4allnc.ncbar.org/participate/online-participation-form.aspx>. All registration must be submitted directly to the NCBA. We will monitor registrations locally and keep the membership informed about our progress in filling out the volunteer slots. If you have any questions, please contact Pro Bono Committee Chair **James Ellis (Stone & Christy, PA)**, (828) 669-7642 or **Bill Whalen, (Pisgah Legal Services)**, (828) 210-3413.

## Upcoming Events Continued

### Take me out to the Tourists...Take me out for some fun...



HomeTrust Bank would like to say THANK YOU to our attorneys and their staff. We want you to have a night of fun on us! Please join us with your family and colleagues as we support our hometown team, the Asheville Tourists, and enjoy a great evening of fun, food, festivities, and prizes! You choose the best date for *you and your family*: **Tuesday, April 15** or **Monday, April 21** Games start at 7 p.m. at McCormick Field- Downtown Asheville. We'll provide the rest (food, drinks, and admission tickets). The Asheville Tourists are generously donating a portion of ticket

sales from both nights to **Pisgah Legal Services**. Please **RSVP** the number of people from your office who will be attending (including children) to DeLaina Blythe, by phone at: 350-4816 or email at: [delaina.blythe@hometrustedbanking.com](mailto:delaina.blythe@hometrustedbanking.com) . See you at the field!!!

### Women Attorney's Luncheon

*"Energy and Physical Environment: Does Your Law Office Enhance Health and Prosperity?"*

Join the Buncombe County Women Attorneys on **April 16th** from 12:15 p.m. until 1:45 p.m. at Cafe On The Square for a luncheon and accompanying presentation by Feng Shui Practitioner, Leslie Grotenhuis ([www.ashevillefengshui.com](http://www.ashevillefengshui.com)). Lunch and presentation will be provided compliments of **McGuire, Wood & Bisette, P.A.**, accepting referrals in all matters related to civil litigation, including trials and appeals in state and federal court. RSVP to **Sheila Lambert** at [SLattorney@aol.com](mailto:SLattorney@aol.com).

### Golf Tournament Benefit for Eliada Homes



**Mark C. Upright** J.D., M.B.A., President and CEO of Eliada Homes and Foundation, Inc. invites you to their an *Inaugural Golf Classic* at The County Club of Asheville on **April 28, 2008**. As a non-profit serving children and families in Western North Carolina, this event developed by our Board of Trustees, will provide much needed funds for children in our treatment and educational programs. They are currently looking players and sponsors for the event. Please see their website: [www.eliada.org](http://www.eliada.org) for details of this event.

### CFP with the Community Foundation of WNC Hosts the 17th Annual Estate and Tax Seminar

The seminar will be on the *"Retirement Assets and Charitable Remainder Trusts: Planning Techniques and Recent Developments"* on **Thursday, May 1, 2008 from 2:00 p.m. – 5:15 pm** at Lioncrest on Biltmore Estate, Asheville. Our presenter, **Sandy Schlesinger**, of **Schlesinger Gannon & Lazetera LLP**, is a fellow of the *American College of Trust and Estate Counsel*. . Approvals for continuing education credit are pending from the **NC State Bar**, the NC Board of CPA Examiners, and the NC Department of Insurance. CFP credit is available. Registration is \$100/person by April 25; \$120 after, or at the door. For more information, visit [www.cfwnc.org](http://www.cfwnc.org), call (828) 254-4960, or email [aikman@cfwnc.org](mailto:aikman@cfwnc.org).

## 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](mailto:greta@ashevillebuncombela.com) or 252-5733 by 3/15 for April news.



### **Welcome New Members**

Please welcome **Neil M. Sicarelli** of the **Public Defender Office** as a new member.

**Mary Hart** (pictured left) of the **Hart Law Group, P.C.** has recently become a member of our bar. Her new email address is [maryhart@thehartlawgroup.com](mailto:maryhart@thehartlawgroup.com)

### **Office Space Available**

Office space available at 9 SW Pack Square #301 – 1300 plus sq. ft. Above the Bistro – close to courthouse – parking available in Biltmore Ave parking garage. Please spread the word! Thanks. (\*Please note that Jane will be out of the office March 17-21. Please contact, Jane Soboleski, Attorney at Law of the Hart Law Group, P.C. on 93 Church Street, Asheville, NC 28801, or by phone: 828-271-4278, or by fax: (828) 258-1031. The Hart web site is: [www.thehartlawgroup.com](http://www.thehartlawgroup.com).

### **Position Open**

Norman C. Riddle, P.A. has a Legal Secretary position open. Small office practice north of Asheville. Friendly atmosphere. Experience preferred. Full time. Some benefits. Easy parking and access. Call and ask for Jeanette at 658-0077.

### **Are You Interested In Serving on the 28th JDB Executive Committee for next year?**

The Nominating Committee will be meeting soon to develop a slate of nominees for membership in the Executive Committee. Anyone who is interested should contact: Nominating Committee Chair, **Bill Whalen** at (828) 210-3413 or [bill@pisgahlegal.org](mailto:bill@pisgahlegal.org).

### **Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Christopher B. Reinhardt of (BULL & REINHARDT, PLLC)**

Savannah Lynne Reinhardt was born on March 5, 2008 at 12:52 a.m. weighing 8lbs, 4oz. This is a picture of Savannah early on the 5th, winking at the camera (or peeking with one eye), you can't tell in this picture but she has a full head of hair. It was a long labor with a few complications but both mother and daughter are doing wonderfully! Thank you for all your prayers and support.



### **A Request from the Old Buncombe County Genealogical Society**

Please reply to [obcgs\\_editor@bellsouth.net](mailto:obcgs_editor@bellsouth.net), or write to the Old Buncombe County Genealogical Society: P.O. Box 2122; Asheville, NC 28802-2122, or come by the Society's office in the Innsbruck Mall, 2nd floor. Last month Charles R. Haller, editor of the *A Lot of Bunkum* Old Buncombe County Genealogical Society requested information for their quarterly newsletter. He said the entire May, 2008 issue of *A Lot of Bunkum* will be dedicated to the legal profession in Buncombe County.

### **Seeking Summer Intern Position with Law Firm**

Please contact Savannah Camp at [savyleec@yahoo.com](mailto:savyleec@yahoo.com) who is seeking a part-time temporary position.

## Membership News

### News from your WNC Chapter of the North Carolina Association of Women Attorneys (NCAWA)

Women of Wisdom (WOW) is a Celebration of Women in the Law for Twenty Five Years or more! Please save the date and mark your calendar now! It will be on Thursday, **May 1, 2008**, 6:00 p.m. at the Coleman Place on 36 Montford Avenue, Asheville, NC. It is hosted by the WNC chapter of the North Carolina Association of Women Attorneys and sponsored by Merrill Lynch. *Would you like to be a sponsor?* We have various levels of sponsorship opportunities available. Please contact **Susan Dotson-Smith** by telephone at: (828) 350-8595 or by email: [susan@dotsonsmithlaw.com](mailto:susan@dotsonsmithlaw.com).

A mid year state **NCAWA** reception will be held in Charlotte on **May 8, 2008**. Here's a chance to network with your colleagues across the state and make decisions on the direction of the state organization. Mark your calendars for the **NCAWA** Annual Conference being held in Asheville **October 2-4, 2008**, and NCAWA's 30th anniversary party, being hosted by Susan Dobson-Smith "Smitty", President of NCAWA.

Please bring your March 3rd Lawyers Weekly to the next bar lunch or you can mail them or drop them off at **Heather Newton's** office for your convenience at 12 Lawyers Walk. There is a drop slot in her door. (Her office is right behind college street between Walnut and Market). There is a great article about NCAWA in that addition.



### Pisgah Legal Services Embarks on a Capital Campaign

**PISGAH**  
LEGAL SERVICES

This is an exciting time for Pisgah Legal Services (PLS) and we are grateful for the commitment of the local 28th Judicial District Bar to providing civil legal aid. More than 9,000 low-income people each year in our region are helped to have health care, safety from abuse, housing and income for the necessities of life – thanks to PLS staff, attorney volunteers and donors.

The PLS staff has grown over the years from 15 to 35, and the Gudger House in Montford is no longer adequate as the main office. PLS has been turning away attorney, student and lay volunteers for lack of office space. Staff members are working in a closet, the basement and the attic.

PLS is raising \$3.9 million for the purchase and up fit of offices at 62 Charlotte Street in Asheville. The Capital Campaign will provide much needed space and security. More importantly, with secure funding and the expanded space, Pisgah Legal Services can double the number of people we help. Starbucks will continue to be a tenant in the building to be owned by PLS. The purchase price is \$3.5 million and the property has 51 parking spaces. The upstairs will be occupied by the PLS legal staff, and must be converted from open, tiny cubicles to modest, private offices. PLS plans to sell the Gudger House and the adjacent parking lot. They are on the market for \$1.1 million. The proceeds will go to help pay for the new facility. As of March 18th, the Capital Campaign had raised \$473,880 from attorneys and \$1,668,249 in total. With support from the Bar climbing steadily, PLS volunteers will seek more support from non-attorney sectors, including individuals and corporations. Thank you to those who have contributed and we look forward to talking with all of you about this once in a lifetime capital campaign.

For more information, call **Jim Barrett** at 210-3408 or **Tina Owen** at 210-3430. Their mailing address is: PO Box 2276 Asheville, NC 28802.

## Awards and Honors

**Steve Grabenstein** of the **Van Winkle Law Firm** has been certified by the North Carolina Dispute Resolution Commission to conduct mediated settlement conferences in Superior Court civil actions. Steve is available to mediate Superior Court cases throughout Western North Carolina and can be reached by phone at (828) 258-2991, or by FAX 828-255-0255, or by email: [www.vwlawfirm.com](http://www.vwlawfirm.com).

**Doug Claxton** of **Claxton Law Firm, PA** accepted an invitation to serve as a Member of the Board of Directors of Quality Forward. Quality Forward is a non-profit, volunteer based organization working to enhance the environment and quality of life for the citizens of Asheville and Buncombe County through awareness building, community activities and partnership. Doug's office is at 22 S Pack Sq, Ste 1200, Asheville, NC 28801 and can be reached by phone at: Phone (828) 253-8818 or by Email: [doug@claxtonlawfirm.com](mailto:doug@claxtonlawfirm.com)

### From your Bar Executive Committee:

Please set aside the late afternoon of **6/6/08**, for the 28th JDB Memorials Committee's memorial ceremony for deceased Buncombe County lawyers. Reviving a tradition of our Bar that has fallen victim to busy schedules in recent years, we will be marking the lives and accomplishments of local lawyers who passed away in the last five or so years. [That dates back approximately to when the last Bar-wide memorial was held.] The judges of the 28th are working closely with us on what we believe will be a special and memorable occasion, so we hope you will mark your calendars to attend. Exact time and courthouse location will be announced soon.

Request for assistance: If you have the name(s) of lawyer(s) who passed on this period and should be recognized at the event, please contact our bar administrator, Greta Camp via Email with "Bar Memorial—Mr./Ms. \_\_\_\_\_[name of lawyer to include]" in its subject line. Don't include a message—if the name you put in the subject line raises a question, the committee will contact you directly. We have made an exhaustive search over 3 months through numerous databases and conversations with lawyers, to gather all applicable names & family contact information, but some information can be hard to track down because of lawyers' moving away, relinquishing their law licenses after retirement, etc. To spare you giving us names we already have, please see the "Bar History" section of our [website](http://www.ashevillebuncombelaw.net) [www.ashevillebuncombelaw.net](http://www.ashevillebuncombelaw.net) for a list of the deceased attorneys we plan to honor at this ceremony.

Thank you to our executive committee member, **Cynthia Holman** for her efforts on coordinating this event.

## Bar Administrator's Letter to Members & Web Page Update

Dear Members:

With spring in the air, I am ready to celebrate all that is going on with this bar. This month we have opportunities to recognize volunteers for their time and energy given in service to **MAVLP** and celebrate a 25 year anniversary at our next bar lunch meeting.



We will have a professional photographer, Diane Hammer of Pictures by Diane taking pictures before and after our meeting on **April 9th**. Diane will have just a few moments to spend with you, so you will need to be ready for your **appointment**. Call me at 252-5733 to set up your appointment). You should plan on arriving 5 minutes before your appointment. The cost will be **\$10** for a professional photograph with a print and web format (pixel size) burned on a CD. You will select the best shot out of five shots immediately after your photo session. Checks or cash need to be paid separately from your bar lunch. Your CD will be available to be picked up at the bar office (64 Broadway, suite 200) within a week of our meeting or at our next meeting on **May 14th**. The photo on the left is an example of what it will look like. We have about 15 appointments still available. If we sell out of appointments we will rebook the photographer for our May meeting. Your photograph can be used for the bar directory.

Most of you have received an email regarding your logon and password to our new website at : [www.ashevillebuncombelaw.net](http://www.ashevillebuncombelaw.net). ( Below is the email message that was sent out to all members who have provided a current email address. Please contact me by email [greta@ashevillebuncombelaw.net](mailto:greta@ashevillebuncombelaw.net) if you have not received this email as shown below.)

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A user account has been created for you on the 28th Judicial Bar web site. Please follow the 2 steps below.

### Step 1 ACTIVATE YOUR ACCOUNT

Your pre-assigned username is: zach  
Click on the link below. It will take you to a page where you can create a password to go with your assigned username. The password is case-sensitive and must be at least 5 characters in length.<http://www.ashevillebuncombelaw.net/passwordreset/c7f76f21790e2bd986f333d126c592d8?userid=zach>

**\*\*IMPORTANT: You must activate your account within 720hours, so before 04-17-2008 09:33 PM**

### Step 2 LOGIN AND COMPLETE YOUR PROFILE

Once you've set your password you'll be prompted to log in to the site and update your profile. Your profile will have already been partially completed based on information you have given the Bar in the past. You'll check this information for accuracy and then complete your profile by adding additional information such as your Areas of Practice and States of Licensure. You can also upload a photo of yourself. The photo should be a professional head shot. The exact specifications will be listed on the web site. Don't worry if you don't have all the info you need in front of you the first time you update your profile. You'll always be able to log in at a later time to make additional changes.

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**(Example of email sent to members continued on next page.)**

## Bar Administrator's Letter to Members & Web Page Update Cont.

**(This is email (started on page 8 that was sent out to all members who had an email on record.)**  
**WHO CAN SEE MY PROFILE?**

All of these profiles will become part of a search-able Directory. Initially this directory will only be available to members but soon we'll make it available to the general public. The public will be able to search by name, company name, language fluency, states of licensure, and areas of practice, as well as a general keyword search. Until then, as a member you will still be able to see and search the Directory once you log in.

**WHO CAN SEARCH THE DIRECTORY?**

We respect the sensitive nature of some of the data. With that in mind, the search function has been designed so that the results of a search will reveal only such information that is appropriate to be seen by the person that is searching. As a logged in member your search results will show more information than would be seen by a non-member, but less than would be seen by the Bar administrator. For example, if you choose to add a cell phone number to your profile, it will not be included in the search results if the search is performed by a non-member. Your email address will NOT be viewable by the public. When you edit your profile you'll see that some fields are designated as viewable by admin-only and others as members-only.

**FEEDBACK**

Once you've updated your profile, it would be helpful if you could give feedback. Did you find the process of either creating a password or updating your profile to be confusing or difficult in any way? If so, or if you just have a comment, please reply to this email or contact Greta at the address below.

**THANKS FOR PARTICIPATING!**

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A note from **Tamra Huggett** of "A Vet's Place", the volunteer coordinator for ABCCM thanked us for our contribution of food from our March 12th bar lunch. They are moving into their new facility on E Tunnel Rd within the next month and continue to rely on donations and volunteers more than ever.

At last I hope to connect with each of you this spring, whether at the ballgame sponsored by **HomeTrust Bank** for the benefit of Pisgah Legal Services or at the next bar lunch meeting.

As always, it is a pleasure to serve you.  
Greta Camp, Bar Administrator

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE BOARD

President: Judge Calvin Hill  
President Elect: : Patsy Brison  
Vice President:: Heidi Stewart  
Immediate Past President: Bill Whalen  
Treasurer: Victor Garlock  
Secretary: Doug Tate

### Members at Large:

Jerry Miller, Judy Rudolph, Cathie St.John-Ritzen,  
Mae Creadick, Shannon Lovins, Jason Peltz,  
Bill Christy, Cynthia Harbin Holman,  
Howard Gum, James Ellis, Peter Kanipe