

28th Judicial District Bar

Buncombe County, NC



Calendar

12 - 1	Executive Committee Meeting
12 - 4	MAVL Hotline Breakfast
12 - 5	Pro Bono CLE
12 - 5	Holiday Party & Santa Pal Toy Drive
12 - 17	Women Attorney's Luncheon 12:30 - Martha Nell's
1 - 5	Executive Committee Meeting
1 - 14	Bar Lunch Meeting
1 - 21	Women Attorney's Luncheon 12:30 - Martha Nell's
2 - 2	Executive Committee Meeting
2 - 11	Bar Lunch Meeting

President's Perspective:



Thank you. Those are two simple words with great significance and great effectiveness, yet they are not used often enough.

As a year comes to an end, we often look back at what happened that year—what was accomplished and what might have had better results. No matter the results, it is important to remember and acknowledge those who have helped us along the way.

Thanks to all the support staff in our offices—assistants, paralegals and receptionists. Thanks to those who pick up and transport packages for overnight delivery. Thanks to couriers who deliver documents and packages across town.

Thanks to all of the Courthouse personnel—both State and Federal Courthouses. Thanks to the staff of the Clerks of Court and the Register of Deeds. Thanks to the law enforcement personnel. Thanks to those who service, clean and maintain the buildings.

Thanks to members of our Bar who continue to model professionalism and civility. Thanks to members of our Bar who give generously in *pro bono* service, as members of boards of community groups, and with financial contributions to individuals and organizations in need.

Thanks to family members and friends who live with our long hours and with our challenges of practicing law. Thanks to colleagues who recognize the importance of our spending time with family and friends.

Thanks to clients who place their confidence in us. Thanks for a professional calling with a primary purpose of service to others.

At the end of this business year, as you turn out the lights and head home, be sure to stop and thank some one else. The smile you receive in return will be thanks enough for you.

BAR ADMINISTRATOR

This month you have opportunity to join in on some fun at our holiday party. Along with delicious food by Fiore's Ristorante Toscana (see menu on the next page) we will have a drawing for a \$25 gift certificate to Fiddlin' Pig as an incentive to participate in updating your profile in our bar member directory. Our webpage will be on the bar's computer at the party. You will also have the option of getting your picture taken with the professional photographer Diane Hammar. This picture could be used in the directory or you could get your photograph taken with your loved one. The cost will be \$10 per photo session.

We hope that if you cannot attend you will participate by donating to our selected charities this year Santa Pal and Manna Food Bank. You may drop off donations the day of the party (3rd floor of Coleman Place) or leave them at the bar office, 64 Broadway - second floor.

A special thanks to **Cathie St. John-Ritzen** for sending pictures from the new member orientation back in September. I appreciate **Vic Garlock**, our treasurer who helped out with the registration at the bar luncheon last month and for **Derrick Bailey** on counting the cash and checks for our verification of receipts.

You're Invited to the 2008 Holiday Party

Friday, December 5

5:30 - 8:30 PM

Coleman Place -

Chamber of Commerce building

Open Bar

In the past, our members have brought toys for Santa Pal to our holiday party. In view of the extraordinary economic downturn, please consider bringing a toy and some canned food goods or a monetary donation for either charity.



INVOLVING, EDUCATING AND UNITING PEOPLE
ENDING HUNGER IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA

Thank You Sponsors For Your Support of the 28JDB 2008 Holiday Party



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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: Patsy Brison

President-Elect: Heidi Stewart

Vice President: Bill Christy

Past President: Judge Calvin Hill

Treasurer: Victor Garlock

Secretary: Doug Tate

Members at Large: Cathie St. John-Ritzen, Mae Creadick, Cynthia Harbin Holman, Jerry Miller, Jason Peltz, Ingrid Friesen, Peter Kanipe, Suzannah Plemmons, Mike Drye, James Ellis - Pro-Bono Committee Chair, Howard Gum - State Bar Councilor

Upcoming Bar Events & News

“Come, celebrate at our holiday party December 5th.

No Bar Lunch this month....”

Please RSVP to our administrator for the Holiday Party.

Place: Coleman Place (Chamber of Commerce) on 36 Montford Ave. Suite 302.

Price: Free to members & their guest.

Time: Starts at 5:30 PM and ends at 8:30 PM

Photographs: \$10 per photo session, Pictures by Diane

MAVL Annual Hotline Breakfast, December 4, 2008, at 8:00 AM - Green Sage

Thank you to our Hotline volunteers! Pisgah Legal Services and the Mountain Area Volunteer Lawyers Program announce our annual Hotline Breakfast, December 4, 2008, at 8:00 AM at Green Sage (corner of College and Broadway). The breakfast is to thank all of our current volunteers and to discuss as a group the workings of the program. All are welcome and we hope that current volunteers will bring someone they think might like to get involved.

Women Attorney’s Lunch on December 17 at 12:30 PM

The Buncombe County Women attorneys meet informally on the third Wednesday of each month at 12:30 p.m. at Martha Nell's restaurant (formerly Cafe on the Square). On December 17th we invite all newly licensed or recently relocated women attorneys to join all of us for lunch. Please RSVP by Monday at noon to : Eileen McMinn

Pro Bono Unemployment Hearings FREE CLE: Friday, December 5, 2008, Unemployment Hearings - 3 Hours Substantive CLE Credit

Designed to provide the busy volunteer attorney the tools and practical experience to jump in and start representing clients in unemployment telephonic appeals, this important MAVL CLE is perfect for any attorney looking for a meaningful and discrete area of pro bono practice. Please consider attending this CLE training, as MAVL needs additional volunteers in this area, especially in light of the economic

downturn. This is held at The Van Winkle Law Firm from 9-12 PM. Register by December 2, by contacting Jennifer Foster, jennifer@pisgahlegal.org, and by phone at 210-3440.

Holiday Party Menu:

*Antipasto with Italian Deli Meats & Cheeses
Fresh Mozzarella & Tomato Salad
Puff Pastry with Creamy Sherry Crab Sauce
Assorted Italian Breads & E.V.O. Dip
Seafood Risotto
Spinach Stuffed Portobello's
(Vegan & Vegetarian Options)
Penne Alla Vodka w/ Organic Baby Spinach
Carving (Beef Prime Rib) Station
Garlic Mashed Potatoes
& Seasonal Vegetables
Desserts: Tiramisu and Chocolate Cups
(Filled with Assorted Mousse)*

Open Bar



New Member Orientation and Lunch



Announcements

Jack Cloninger, Fred Barbour, Brad Searson, and Scott Jones are pleased to announce the formation of their new firm. They will begin practice as Cloninger, Barbour, Searson and Jones, PLLC, January 1, 2009. The firm's offices will be in 21 Battery Park Ave., where Barbour and Jones currently are located. Litigation will be the firm's focus, particularly medical negligence, serious personal injury, and business litigation. The firm members are available for consultation and referral.

Awards & Recognitions



**Ingrid Friesen -
Pisgah Legal Service
Board Member Emeritus
Award for 2008**

Ingrid Friesen was presented the **Board Member Emeritus Award for 2008** at the Jazz for Justice event put on by Pisgah Legal Services. The honorary title "Board Member Emeritus" was created by Pisgah Legal Services to recognize outstanding individuals for exemplary service on its Board of Directors. This honor was inspired by the dedication and commitment of Karl H. Straus, the first Board Member Emeritus.

Ingrid has provided outstanding pro bono services to PLS clients through the MAVL Program, which is administered by PLS. She volunteers on the most difficult family custody and divorce cases involving very serious domestic violence.

Ingrid served on Pisgah Legal Services' Board of Directors from 1991 through 1996, as Board Vice President in 1992 and 1993 and as President in 1994 and 1995. During her tenure on the Board, Ingrid helped to establish the Children's Law Project, as an outgrowth of a strategic planning process she led. Ingrid has made a tremendous contribution to Pisgah Legal Services' fundraising efforts, as a volunteer Attorney Phone-a-Thon solicitor for many years. She has helped to recruit teams of callers to raise crucial funding from attorneys for PLS' annual campaigns.

Even since leaving the Board, Ingrid has remained extremely active in support of the PLS' mission, supporting PLS' fundraising efforts and helping plan for PLS' future. In Pisgah Legal Services' most recent Strategic Planning Process in 2006, Ingrid led the Marketing Subcommittee. She currently serves on the Justice For All Capital Campaign Steering Committee. Pisgah Legal Services' Executive Director **Jim Barrett** notes, "Ingrid Friesen is truly one those volunteers whom you can count on to pitch in

wherever and whenever needed."

George Ward Hendon - The Roy Davis Award for 2008

The Roy Davis Award was established in honor of Roy W. Davis, Jr. to recognize individuals for their exemplary contributions to the mission of providing civil legal aid to the needy in Western North Carolina. Recipients have earned the Roy Davis Award for their outstanding efforts to bring justice to more people through Pisgah Legal Services.

George Ward Hendon became involved with Pisgah Legal Services almost 25 years ago, when he began taking "Judicare" referrals. Since that time, Ward has supported Pisgah Legal Services in numerous capacities. Ward served on the Board of North Carolina's Interest on Lawyers Trust Accounts (IOLTA) from 1994 through 1999 and as Chairman in 1998 and 1999. On the IOLTA Board, he supported funding for Pisgah Legal Services' program expansion and the reinstatement of IOLTA funding for PLS when Legal Services of North Carolina abruptly terminated PLS' funding in 1998. Ward established the "rainy day fund" at IOLTA to ensure that funding for legal aid across the state is sustained during lean years when banks pay lower interest rates or when fewer real estate sales produce less trust account income.

Ward served on Pisgah Legal Services' Board from 1999 through 2005, a period of tremendous growth for PLS, as several new programs were started to address unmet community needs, staff were added to expand services and PLS dramatically increased its fundraising efforts. Ward served as PLS Board President in 2003 and 2004 and as Vice President in 2001 and 2002. Ward has provided pro bono services to PLS clients through the Mountain Area Volunteer Lawyer Program for many years, including several years as a Pro Bono Hotline volunteer. He has assisted more than 85 PLS clients over the course of his pro bono service. Ward's law firm Adams, Hendon, Carson, Crow & Saenger, P.A. received the 2004 N.C. Bar Association's Outstanding Law Firm Pro Bono Service Award. Ward currently accepts wills, estates, and end-of-life directives cases.

In 2005, Ward played an important role as a lead counsel for PLS in a dispute between PLS and the federal Legal Services Corporation over ownership of the Gudger House—PLS' main one since 1981. Ward and other Asheville attorneys successfully defended that lawsuit. He and the Adams Firm have served as pro bono counsel to PLS as needed at various other times, as well. Ward has played active roles in PLS' major fundraising efforts, including serving on the Leadership Committee for the Justice For All Capital Campaign.