

President's Report

Greg Ohanesian
OHANESIAN & OHANESIAN, BENNETTSTVILLE

Greetings to All!

2023 got off to a great start with Senior Lawyers Division's participation at the SC Bar Convention in January. SLD president-elect David Cantrell coordinated the division seminar, pulling together a talented group of experienced speakers who presented on human trafficking. The subject was a most timely one and all who attended received a great education on this cultural problem.

Our spring retreat in Mt. Pleasant was another opportunity to receive pertinent information and make an impact on the direction of the division. Thanks to Cathy Kennedy for her continued work on amending the division bylaws.

I hope everyone attended the Memory Hold the Door commemoration that was held on May 11. The event honored distinguished lawyers and jurists while showcasing the diversity of the SC Bar. I know the

commemoration will be one to look back on as a template for the future. Additional information regarding the program can be found towards the end of this newsletter.

We all look forward to David Cantrell's leadership of the executive council beginning July 1. I have certainly enjoyed my tenure and thank all those who had confidence in me, especially Bobby Kilgo. The executive council has honored me.

Longtime executive council member Pam Robinson retired in January. Her dedication and input while serving on the council has been invaluable, and we wish her the very best. The division welcomes professor and former dean Rob Wilcox as the USC School of Law representative. His wealth of experience will be an asset to the executive council.

Finally, how could we function without Tara Caine. She organizes events and reminds us of deadlines. Thank you, Tara, for your fine work.

Hon. J. Mark Hayes, II Law Day Essay Contest

The 2023 Law Day theme will be "Cornerstones of Democracy: Civics, Civility, and Collaboration." We invite all the people of the United States to join us in rebuilding trust in our institutions, respect for one another, and our willingness to collaborate to address the challenges that face our nation. [Click here](#) to download the essay packet.

SLD Pro Bono Award

The purpose of this award is to recognize outstanding pro bono contributions of members of the SC Bar Senior Lawyers Division. The recognition focuses on the improvement of the civil legal system and the legal profession through pro bono work with those unable to afford the services of an attorney. There will be one award per judicial region. The awards are presented annually by the Division at a suitable event. [The award packet may be found here.](#)

The deadline to submit the award packet and supporting documents is October 1. Submissions may be sent to tcaine@scbar.org.

Looking Ahead

David D. Cantrell, Jr.
DAVID D. CANTRELL, JR., LLC, EASLEY

SLD is a thriving, active group even though it may be the best kept secret of all the Bar. Membership is made up of all lawyers in good standing that are 60 years of age and older. Participation is voluntary but those who are involved have many opportunities that will enhance their own professional and social lives as well as promoting several positive initiatives.

The SLD is significantly involved with the SC Bar Board of Governors and House of Delegates, and initiatives that are often presented to the Supreme Court for approval.

The Division has scheduled its Fall Symposium for October 6-8 in Greenville. The event will be opened to all SLDers. Our guest speaker is SC Supreme Court Justice Gary D. Hill. Last year's symposium was held in Cashiers, NC with Chief Judge James E. Lockemy speaking, an example of the extraordinary quality of the speakers we enjoyed.

Also, regional "Lunch and Learns" are resuming after being on hiatus due to Covid, with the first that took place in Greenville on May 9, with guest speaker Supreme Court Justice John Kittredge. Plans are being made for additional "Lunch and Learns" in Columbia and Charleston, and hopefully other areas in the very near future. These are opportunities for SLD members in each region to meet, socialize and hear excellent speakers on a variety of topics.

Members of the SLD are also very involved in the Nifty Fifty program, Law Day essay contest and the Bar's Memory Hold the Door, chaired by SLD executive council member Bobby Kilgo.

And last, but certainly not least, under the guidance of executive council member Nancy Layman, SLD organizes amazing travel opportunities to destinations all over the world, including England, Scotland, Cuba and Vietnam, among others.

But one should not lose sight of the chance the SLD offers to stay involved with programs, gatherings and other members of our profession.

For any information, questions, or to find out more about opportunities to be involved with the Senior Lawyers Division please feel free to contact David D. Cantrell, Jr., incoming SLD President at (864) 859-3317 or Dcantrellatty@aol.com or our Bar staff liaison, Tara Caine at (803) 576-3766 or tcaine@scbar.org.

We Want To Hear From You

If you are interested in submitting an article, book recommendation or other materials for the next issue of The Boomer Times, please forward your submission to Mills Gallivan at mgallivan@gwblawfirm.com or Tara Caine at tcaine@scbar.org.

ABA House of Delegates Report

Bev A. Carroll
MORTON & GETTYS, ROCK HILL

[This is a report from the American Bar Association House of Delegates meeting held on February 6, 2023, in New Orleans.](#) I am currently serving my second year as a South Carolina state delegate, and will be succeeded by Roy Laney after the ABA Annual Meeting held this August in Denver.

My experience on the ABA HOD has been a good one. I attended one virtual-only meeting and two live meetings. You undergo new delegate training at the outset, and some weeks before, you are provided with the resolutions that will be considered at the upcoming meeting. Resolutions are presented by ABA committees, and in most cases, are supported by several committees. Each resolution has supporting documentation that evidences a great deal of time and thought has gone into the resolution's submission. The subject of the resolutions are as varied as the committees that exist.

At the February HOD meeting, resolutions ranged from improving the treatment of persons living with dementia in the criminal justice system, the elimination from state bar applications any inquiry of sexual orientation or gender identity, providing natural disaster preparedness to farmers and other animal producers seeking federal government payment for lost livestock, and resolutions condemning antisemitism and the invasion of Ukraine. Not surprisingly, there were also resolutions touching on topics of gun control and abortion and related medical treatment. The

SLD Executive Council to issue step challenge

Jack Muench
FLORENCE

The executive council of the Senior Lawyers Division will issue a step challenge to division members to promote and encourage wellness in a manner that minimizes intrusion, expense, exotic equipment and unfamiliar activity. Last month the British Journal of Sports Medicine published a literature review of some 196 studies confirming and establishing that walking is consistent with these precepts while providing a well-established means for accomplishing several health and wellness goals.

Generally, walking can lower participants' risk for heart disease, many kinds of cancer and mortality. More positively, walking can (1) reduce any number of aches and pains, (2) combat depression, reduce anxiety and reduce insomnia; (3) sharpen memory; (4) help to eliminate brooding (an exceptionally problematic and pandemic-enhanced issue); and (5) materially aid balance. Indeed, falls are a significant problem for older adults and walking is a simple and

topic that generated the most discussion, however, was a resolution that would have allowed law schools not to use the LSAT examination for admission to law school. The ABA is the organization that accredits law schools, and the resolution was rejected after a spirited debate, including compelling arguments that it would hinder diversity by putting too much emphasis on subjective factors. I am happy to provide the report from the Select Committee on the Midyear meeting that has details about all the resolutions presented.

South Carolina has good representation at the ABA meetings. The Bar has several delegates, as well as a state representative to the ABA. Several South Carolinians serve on



efficient way to combat that pernicious problem.

No lesser authority than Hippocrates proclaimed that "walking is man's best medicine." Participation in the SLD step challenge will be positively encouraged, and prizes will be awarded. We look forward to communicating more details in the coming weeks and joining the SLD membership in taking steps toward a healthier life.

committees and have been chosen as that committee's House of Delegates representative. South Carolina Young Lawyer's Division is very active in the ABA and several of its members serve in representative capacities. As with the South Carolina Bar, past presidents of the ABA remain permanent members of the ABA HOD and William Hubbard continues to be active in the ABA. The South Carolina delegation in New Orleans included Pamela Roberts, Hon. James Lockemy, La'Jessica Stringfellow, Sheila Willis, Teckla Henderson, Sutania Fuller, Jeanmarie Tankersley, Taylor Gilliam, Mike Burch, Ally Burch, Will Yarborough, Luke Rankin, Jay Elliott, Hon. Danette Mincey, Andy Gowder, Roy Laney and Dean William Hubbard.

Keeping In Touch

Roland Jones, Jr.
SPARTANBURG
Donald B. Wildman
JOHNSON SMITH HIBBARD & WILDMAN, LLP, SPARTANBURG

As senior/experienced lawyers, many of us have had the opportunity to practice with the same county bar members for years. At the same time, it is good for the future of the profession to go out of your way to get to know newer colleagues as they come into our local bars. It's also been proven to be beneficial individually to maintain relationships with older familiar colleagues as they wind down or leave active practice.

To that end senior lawyers in some counties have created and sustained informal groups to maintain personal contacts. Some call themselves OWLS (Older Wiser Lawyers) and some are so comfortable and informal they go by no name – there are a hundred ways to do this. In Spartanburg we call ourselves with unapologetic pride the "Geezers."

Geezers is an informal group of retired or eligible to be retired Spartanburg attorneys formed about eight years ago. Geezers meet once a month for lunch to socialize, gossip, pass on bar news and renew old friendships. Before the Pandemic, there were about 15 "members," with meeting attendance usually in the range of eight to ten. Meetings

were suspended until late 2022 due to the pandemic, and by then, due to normal aging of the Spartanburg Bar, the number of attorneys "eligible" for membership had almost tripled. Attendance at the meetings since the pandemic has increased to about 25, and we enjoy a local restaurant that accommodates our increased numbers and has a reasonably priced but varied menu suitable for all our dietary needs and tastes. Although there is no order of business, we are intentional to discuss our absent members with significant health issues, to encourage visits or other communications with them, and to provide assistance as needed. War stories are told, both new and old. It pays to attend, if only to provide a self-serving rebuttal as may be needed. A very good time is had by all!

Although it is an informal group, some willing leadership is required, but the burden is minimal. If your local bar does not have such informal opportunities, think about stepping up and stepping out to get one going. You won't find a better way to spend a few hours each month with some of the best people you already know.



Are you interested in serving on the SLD Executive Council?

The Senior Lawyers Division is calling for nominations for the Secretary position, Regional Representatives from Regions 2 and 4, and Out-of-State Representative. Terms will begin on July 1, 2024.

Nominees must be a member of the Senior Lawyers Division in good standing. A nominee for Regional Representative must maintain his/her principal office in the judicial region to be represented. A nominee for the Out-of-State Representative must maintain his/her principal office and/or residency outside of South Carolina.

Responsibilities will include coordinating networking events, assisting with special projects and programs, submitting recommendations for the SLD Pro Bono Award, submitting content for The Boomer Times, and participating at SLD

Executive Council meetings. The Executive Council meets approximately five times during the Bar year. Participation via conference call will be available for the majority of the meetings.

Members of the Division are encouraged to submit names to the Nominating Committee for consideration. Please verify the member's interest in serving on the Executive Council before submitting your nomination. Please forward recommendations along with a brief bio to Tara Caine at tcaine@scbar.org no later than **October 31**. Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Tara via email or by calling (803) 576-3766 or toll free at (877) 797-2227, ext. 146.

To view a list of the current Executive Council, please [click here](#).

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 15

Nifty Fifty Program Recognizing SC Bar 1973 Admittees

Senate's End, Columbia
Invitation Only

OCTOBER 6 – 8

Fall Symposium

Westin Poinsett Hotel, Greenville

2023-2024 SLD Goals

1. Continue to address issues and explore options to properly accommodate the hearing impaired within the court system.
2. Identify and pursue methods to successfully market and enhance the benefits of being a member of the Division.
3. Continue to conduct a seminar, reception and Executive Council meeting in conjunction with the SC Bar Convention.
4. Conduct statewide programs on topics to include, but not limited to, competency issues, succession plans, health and retirement, technology, etc.
5. Host a Fall Symposium to include networking opportunities and an educational seminar. The 2023 event is scheduled for October 6-8 in Greenville.
6. Provide regional networking opportunities for members of the Division.
7. Explore ways to promote diversity, equity and inclusion within the Division.
8. Arrange for members to be sworn in to practice before the US Supreme Court and the US Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces in Washington, DC. A reception and swearing-in ceremony are scheduled for October 29 & 30.
9. Continue to coordinate with local county bar associations on participating in and promoting the Law Day essay contest. In addition, each statewide essay winner will be recognized and presented with a monetary contribution, medal and certificate, with the overall winner to be acknowledged at the SC Bar Convention.
10. Continue to coordinate efforts with the USC School of Law Pro Bono program by promoting and participating in the SC Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts project, My Wills, SC Free Legal Answers, the Palmetto Leader and a variety of other potential programs.
11. Continue to recognize a senior Bar member who has demonstrated outstanding commitment to volunteer legal services and who has made a positive impact in the community by presenting him/her with the SLD Pro Bono Award.
12. Continue to support and recognize the Nifty Fifty Honorees. The 2023 program is scheduled for September 15 in Columbia.
13. Continue to explore travel destinations for members of the Division.
14. Provide input regarding senior attorney issues and support the SC Bar Wellness Committee. In addition, actively promote and assist with projects of interest to the Division.

Cruising The Mississippi

Hon. Catherine H. Kennedy
TURNER PADGET GRAHAM & LANEY, PA, COLUMBIA

Have you ever thought about taking a river cruise? Maybe you've even sailed down the Danube, Rhine, Seine or Thames. But I'm talking about a cruise closer to home. In August of 2022, when the world was just beginning to open back up, my husband Rick and I took a cruise in the good ole US of A on the lower Mississippi. Other than New Orleans, we had never been to that part of the U.S. We were tired of being home, so we signed up for an eight day cruise on American Cruise Lines.

We took a direct flight from Charlotte to New Orleans, arriving in the early afternoon. We checked into our hotel (provided by the cruise line) and then took a walk around the French Quarter to Bourbon Street. It was seedier than we remembered, and we felt uncomfortable even in the late afternoon. We walked to Pat O'Brien's, home of the famous dueling pianos, where we hoped to have a bite to eat a little later and perhaps sample a hurricane. (Although the only time I had a hurricane, it blew me away!) But we were there on a Tuesday and Pat O'Brien's was closed. So back to the hotel to speak to the concierge. We ended up at Muriel's on Jackson Square. It was a lovely *prix fixe* dinner with a bottle of wine added in. Then a taxi back to our hotel.

The next morning, we had breakfast with our fellow cruisers and took the cruise line bus to the port where we boarded our ship. It was a paddlewheel river boat in the fashion of the 1800's, but powered by a motor. The room was similar to a hotel room, maybe a bit smaller, but adequate. All rooms had balconies. Lunch was served in the dining room with open seating. You could dine alone or sit with others, depending upon your choice.

After unpacking and touring the ship, it was time for a pre-dinner cocktail hour with hors d'oeuvres. The bartenders were inexperienced and the bar lacking in some basics, but we gave them a list of what they needed to purchase and they did so in the next port. Dinner was nothing spectacular, but our dining companions were nice. After dinner each evening there was entertainment – a lot of jazz, country and Cajun music. We heard the story of how the Cajuns came from Acadia in Canada to Louisiana more times than I can count.

Our first stop the next day was Houmas House and Gardens, located along Louisiana's River Road and just a few hundred yards from the ship. Houmas House is a lovely mansion that is still in private hands. The colonnade that exists today was built by General Wade Hampton (yes, our Wade Hampton) in 1829. The home was a gift for his new wife, his third, Mary Preston Hampton. At his death the home and lands were inherited by Wade Hampton, II. Eventually they were sold out of the Hampton family. The house has been beautifully restored, and the gardens are lovely.

The afternoon excursion was to Oak Alley, a short ride up the road via motor coach. Oak Alley is a former Sugar Cane plantation that is a National Historic Landmark. Along with tours of the home, there are cabins and exhibits that depict the life of the enslaved workers and a video detailing the production of sugar from sugar cane. We did enjoy a mint julep compliments of the cruise line, my first!

Then to Baton Rouge. It was so named because of a red pole on the bluff above the Mississippi River that marked the boundary between



two Native American nations. Baton Rouge is the capital of Louisiana and the second largest city in Louisiana, behind New Orleans. We took a coach tour of the city, saw the state capitol (pictured below), and ended up at a rural life museum. On the way back to the ship, we rode through the campus of Louisiana State University and got off to visit the spacious den of the LSU tiger.



The historic cotton port of St. Francisville was our next stop. We visited another plantation, Rose-down, a state historic site. Rose-down was a much more modest home than the prior plantations we had visited. It was built in the 1830's by the Turnbull family and kept in the family until the mid-1950's. Many of the furnishings are original to the home. The grounds are well-maintained and extensive, beautifully restored according to the original plan by Martha Turnbull.

Our stop in Natchez was on a Sunday. The ship offered a shuttle loop from the ship through downtown. Natchez is a lovely town, and we spent some time riding the shuttle and just walking the streets, although many of the downtown shops were closed. I'm certain we would have enjoyed our visit more had we visited on another day of the week. We did visit Dunleith Mansion and learned about John Roy Lynch, a child servant who became the first African American to become a member of the U.S. House of Representatives.

In Vicksburg we visited a local home in the morning and enjoyed a pleasant piano concert by the owner. In the afternoon we visited the National Military Park where the battle of Vicksburg in the War Between the States took place. It is rolling fields now, but the narrated tour brought the battle to life.

The next day was at leisure on the Mississippi, watching the muddy waters roll by and enjoying time with our fellow cruisers. Most of the people on the cruise were seniors. Among others, we met two very nice couples from the Dallas/Fort Worth area, with whom we spent most of our dinners and evenings.

Our final port was Memphis. We signed up for the Graceland Tour. Although most of the excursions were included, this one was extra. Graceland is located outside downtown Memphis. It was an all-day tour to the park and museum, lunch in a restaurant on site, as well as a timed tour of the home. The museum is incredible with displays of Elvis's automobiles and his costumes—well worth a visit. The home is still decorated in the 1970's style as when Elvis was alive. Although I have to say we are not Elvis fans, we

did become more appreciative of his life and contributions after touring Graceland. It was only about a week after the anniversary of his death and flowers from around the world were still displayed at his grave. For only being 42 when he died, he is still making an impact today.

We disembarked in Memphis and took a taxi to the Peabody Hotel where we spent a night. Thankfully our exquisite room (about twice the size of the ship's room) was ready at 10 in the morning. We got settled and then went down to the lobby to wait for the 11 a.m. arrival of the ducks. Why I was not aware of the tradition of the Peabody ducks, I don't know. But my husband was, so we claimed our seats, ordered a coffee and waited for the ducks and the Duckmaster to arrive. The lobby began to fill up with others who finally just had to sit on the floor. The ducks and the Duckmaster arrive in their special elevator from the roof and the five ducks march to the fountain in the middle of the lobby where they stay until 5 p.m. when the process reverses itself. What started out as a prank is now a Memphis attraction that has lasted more than 90 years.

We left and headed for Sun Studios, the record studio where Elvis, Jerry Lee Lewis, and Johnny Cash, among others, got their start. Although they were supposed to be open for tours every day, they were closed for painting. So, we ended up at a music museum on Beale Street. We also went to the National Civil Rights Museum located in the Lorraine Motel where Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated. The room and the vehicles parked outside are like they were at that time—very moving. That evening we went back to Beale Street to the Blues City Café to hear a guitarist who had performed on the ship. Good food and excellent entertainment.

The next day, we packed up our things, checked out of the beautiful Peabody and headed to the airport to fly home. We not only came home with many wonderful memories and some new friends, but also COVID, which made Rick very sick and caused us to quarantine for ten days.

Bottom line: River cruises are relatively expensive because the price does include all meals and most excursions. There are many choices for excursions in each port; I have only highlighted the ones we chose. This ship was adequate, the food good but not exceptional, and the service satisfactory. Some of the inadequacies may have to do with the fact that they were just gearing back up after the pandemic shutdown, and some may be due to employment laws in the U.S. We did not find this river cruise to be as nice as the one we had taken in Austria. Would we recommend this trip? Well, but for COVID, yes. It's a way to experience our own country and avoid those grueling overseas flights. We will likely try another one in the future, but for now, our next trip is just to the beach with family.

GET INVOLVED

Below is a list of committees that SLD offers. If you are interested in signing up, please contact the appropriate committee chair or SLD Bar staff liaison, Tara Caine at tcaine@sbar.org. For additional information on the Senior Lawyers Division and to found out how you can become involved, please [click here](#).

Membership Committee formulates programs and activities to serve the needs and interests of senior lawyers and promote the welfare of seniors generally. The Division will continue to host statewide "Lunch and Learns," programs providing an opportunity for a group of senior lawyers to gather, socialize, share a meal and enjoy speakers on a wide variety of topics. Previous speakers have included Justice Kaye Hearn, Mayor Joe Riley and Mayor Knox White, and topics have covered

mental toughness, liability insurance issues unique to senior lawyers and a tour of the UofSC School of Law. For additional information, please contact David D. Cantrell, Jr. at dcantrellatly@aol.com or by calling (864) 859-3317.

Pro Bono Committee manages the annual SLD Pro Bono Award by promoting, recruiting applicants, assisting with selection and presentation of award and bring pro bono projects to the attention of the Executive Council. Notify the Executive Council of involvement of senior lawyers in pro bono activities by providing information, encouraging participation, and responding to requests for information. For additional information, please contact M. Malissa Burnette at mburnette@BurnetteShutt.Law or by calling (803) 850-0912.

Memory Hold the Door

The Memory Hold the Door program was held on Thursday, May 11, at 1:30 p.m. in the Hon. Karen J. Williams Courtroom at the USC School of Law. A reception followed in the Perrin Family Room at the law school. Below is the list of honorees and presenters. Photos from the program will be available on the Bar website at the end of this month.

Honorees

Hon. Julius H. Baggett
Hon. William R. Byars, Jr.
Frank E. Cain, Jr.
Louis O. Dore
William S. McAninch
Peden B. McLeod
E. LeRoy Nettles, Sr.
Edna S. Primus
Irene K. Rudnick
Marvin R. Watson

Presenters

Justice Coast M. Pleicones
John O. McDougall
Greg Ohanesian
Bernard McIntyre
Hon. L. Casey Manning, Sr.
Walton J. McLeod, III
W.E. "Billy" Jenkinson, III
Prof. W. Lewis Burke
Barbara R. Morgan
Michelle D. Powers

Publications Committee obtains articles/content for the Division's quarterly newsletter, The Boomer Times. In addition, the committee will focus on producing a publication and/or resource materials on succession planning. For additional information, please contact Donald B. Wildman at dwildman@jshwlaw.com.

[com](#) or by calling (864) 582-8121.

Senior Wellness Committee identifies and promotes health and wellness programs to senior lawyers. For additional information, please contact J.H. "Jack" Muench at jhm6952@gmail.com or by calling (843) 610-0500.