Boundless Imaginations Bring Play

Areas to Life

This ASB member takes child's play very seriously

ebra Deames Spain, a 1991 ASB admittee and a member of the Montgomery firm of Capell & Howard PC, has helped make a more kid-friendly Montgomery through two unique Montgomery playgrounds and a third exciting project in the works—a children's museum destined to be a jewel in reviving downtown Montgomery.

The children's museum will be an interactive math and science exploration center designed for children in first through fourth grades. After extensive planning and a feasibility study, a building for the museum has been purchased on Commerce Street. "I'm tickled to be included in that project and what it will mean to Montgomery," said Spain. A capital campaign will launch soon.

Spain's initial foray into playspaces came through the Boundless Playground at Vaughn Road Park. Boundless Playground



The Boundless Playground at Vaughn Road Park expands the play possibilities for children of all ability levels and all ages. Features include elevated sand tables and activity panels. (Photo by Kimberly L.Wright)



Oliver Harper, four, tries out monkey bars made for tykes at Discovery Village in downtown Montgomery. (Photo by Kimberly L.Wright)

play structures encourage children of differing ability levels to play together through universally accessible structures, gathering spots, swings and bouncing equipment with back support, elevated sand tables and activity panels.

Through the efforts of Spain and the playground steering committee, a partnership with Montgomery Kiwanis Club, the City of Montgomery, and a groundswell of support from organizations and private individuals, the Boundless Playground was completed in October 2003. "It was a pretty amazing project, but we had pretty amazing people who got fired up about it," she said

Spain assisted with the second playground project as a member of the Junior League of Montgomery, co-chairing the effort for Discovery Village, a science-based play area. "It is a beautiful playground used by the neighborhood kids and kids in town on field trips to the state capital," she said.

-Kimberly L. Wright, Montgomery

Cyber Security Tip ST05-014: Real-World Warnings Keep You Safe Online

These safety tips are based on facts and experience—learn from someone else's mistakes

any of the warning phrases you probably heard from your parents and teachers are also applicable to using computers and the Internet.

Why are these warnings important?

Like the real world, technology and the Internet present dangers as well as benefits. Equipment fails, attackers may target you and mistakes and poor judgment happen. Just as you take precautions to protect yourself in the real world, you need to take precautions to protect yourself online. For many users, computers and the Internet are unfamiliar and intimidating, so it is appropriate to approach them the same way we urge children to approach the real world.

What are some warnings to remember?

Don't trust candy from strangers

Finding something on the Internet does not guarantee that it is true. Anyone can publish information online, so before accepting a statement as fact or taking action, verify that the source is reliable. It is also easy for attackers to "spoof" e-mail addresses, so verify that the address is legitimate before opening an unexpected e-mail attachment or responding to a request for personal information.

If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is

You have probably seen many e-mails promising fantastic rewards or monetary gifts. However, regardless of what the e-mail claims, there are not any wealthy strangers desperate to send you money. Beware of grand promises—they are most likely spam, hoaxes or phishing schemes. Also, be wary of pop-up windows and advertisements for free downloadable software—they may be disguising spyware.

Don't advertise that you are away from home

Some e-mail accounts, especially within an organization, offer a feature (called an auto-responder) that allows you to create an "away" message if you are going to be away from your e-mail



for an extended period of time. The message is automatically sent to anyone who e-mails you while the auto-responder is enabled. While this is a helpful feature for letting your contacts know that you will not be able to respond right away, be careful how you phrase your message. You do not want to let potential attackers know that you are not home, or, worse, give specific details about your location and itinerary. Safer options include phrases such as, "I will not have access to e-mail between [date] and [date]." If possible, also restrict the recipients of the message to people within your organization or in your address book. If your away message replies to spam, it only confirms that your e-mail account is active. This may increase the amount of spam you receive.

Lock up your valuables

If an attacker is able to access your personal data, he or she may be able to compromise or steal the information. Take steps to protect this information by following good security practices. Some of the most basic precautions include locking your computer when you step away; using firewalls, anti-virus software and strong passwords; installing appropriate patches; and taking precautions when browsing or using e-mail.

Have a backup plan

Since your information could be lost or compromised (due to an equipment malfunction, an error or an attack), make regular backups of your information so that you still have clean, complete copies. Backups also help you identify what has been changed or lost. If your computer has been infected, it is important to remove the infection before resuming your work. Keep in mind that if you did not realize that your computer was infected, your backups may also be compromised.

-By Mindi McDowell and Matt Lytle, US-CERT (This tip was published in 2005 and is being re-distributed to increase awareness.)

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Third Annual "CLE on the SEAS" 2009

Family Law Section, Alabama State Bar (approved for 4.0 hours CLE credit)

- Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines, "Enchantment of the Seas"
- Five-Night Cruise, with Three Ports of Call: Key West, Cozumel and Belize City

Sailing: April 27th to May 2nd, 2009 Deadline is September 15, 2008

Rates (per person-based on two people per stateroom)

- Inside Cabin-\$340
- Outside Cabin-\$430
- Junior Suite-\$830
- Taxes and Fees-\$218 per person
- Optional Insurance will be offered (rates depend on cabin rates)
- Deposit: \$200 per stateroom is required to confirm a specific cabin. This deposit is fully refundable until final payment.
- Final Payment: Balance is due no later than February 16, 2009. Penalties begin with final payment.

**Specific cabins are reserved on a first-come basis with the \$200 deposit. To make sure you get the cabin type desired, make your reservations by September 15, 2008.

**Passports are required for all participants regardless of age.

**You can book a cabin in one name with the second name to be added at a later date.

Fun, Food & Entertainment

- Tours: Enjoy on-shore activities in three countries: USA, Mexico and Belize!
- On-board: Indoor/Outdoor Pools, Splash Deck, Solarium, Spa and Fitness Center—Serious fun for thrill-seekers: Rock-climbing wall and Bungee trampolines. Specialty restaurants, Chops Grille, themed bars and lounges, Casino Royale, and much, much more!

Contact Nell McInnish, All Seasons Travel, 2742 Central Parkway, Montgomery 36106, (334) 271-6647, (800) 365-1224, Fax 334-271-5939



Take a deep breath and try again. We're here to help.

ome members have contacted us concerning problems they've encountred since we changed the log-in procedure for the password-protected area of Alabar, our Web site. But don't despair. The new protocol is not difficult.

The original log-in procedure used each member's e-mail address as the user ID and the bar number as the password. This was easy to remember (or to find if you

couldn't remember), because bar ID numbers appear on the bar identification card members receive when they pay their dues each year in September.

The problem was security. If your log-in information was compromised, there were obvious problems with changing it. We felt like we had no choice but to change the system before problems arose. So, we have now gone to member-created user names and passwords. If you haven't set up a user name and password of

your choice, you will need to do so the next time you log in. In order to start the process, go to the home page of the bar's Web site at www.alabar.org. Directly under the header which reads "Alabama State Bar" and "Lawyers Render Service," you will see the log-in boxes, which are now at the top of every page on the Web site. Beneath the Password box

you'll see a link that says "Click here to use the new log-in procedure." When you click on this link you'll be taken to a page that will allow you to quickly set up a new user ID and password of your choice. This page has the title "Log-in Help" at the top of the page. Once on this Log-in Help page, you'll see a box to enter your e-mail address and bar ID number, along with blanks to create your new user ID (enter your new password twice for verification.)

You may choose any user ID and password that you like. The only requirement is that they must each be at least five characters long, but no more than 15. They can contain numbers, letters and symbols, but no blank spaces. Neither is case sensitive.

Once you have filled in the blanks, be sure to hit the "Submit" button. Otherwise, your input will not be saved and your new user ID and password will not be recorded.

What if you create a new user ID and password, but can't remember them later? That's easy. On the Log-in Help page there is another box for retrieving your user name or password. (You can't get both at once.) Just enter your email address and bar ID number, choose whether you want your User ID or your password, and then click the "Submit" button. The answer will be e-mailed to you instantly.

If you have any problems setting up a new user ID and password, call Kristi Skipper at (334) 517-2242 or e-mail her at kristi.skipper@alabar.org.



BOOK REVIEW

The Lawyer's Guide to Microsoft® Outlook 2007

by Ben Schorr-Reviewed by Laura A. Calloway, director,

ASB Service Programs

Someone else has already done the hard part and now you can streamline your office tasks quickly and easily

f you have already upgraded to Office 2007, and if you are feeling overwhelmed by the new user interface in Outlook, not to mention the volume of e-mail you receive every day, this is the book for you.

The author is a well-respected technology consultant with a multi-national stable of clients and an intimate knowledge of how Outlook works, from the inside out. But don't let that scare you. The book is an extremely easy read—it's as if he's a friend talking you through your use of the product. And from his many years as both a consultant and as director of information services for a large Honolulu law firm, he understands how lawyers use e-mail.

Chapter I starts out with a tour of Outlook 2007 and explains all the different law office tasks it can help you perform, teaching you how you can configure the look and feel of Outlook to meet your needs. The book then proceeds to detailed chapters on each of the program's separate functions, such as e-mail, to-dos, calendaring, contacts, and using the journal, to show you how these tools can be adapted to your business processes—or how those processes can be strengthened to get more done, more easily.

The final chapters show you how to archive materials when the case is done, how to effectively use Outlook with other parts of the Office Suite, such as Word for mail merges, and how to avoid common mistakes that lawyers make when using Outlook. There is even a chapter of tips and tricks that will amaze you with how easy using Outlook can be.

The Lawyer's Guide to Microsoft® Outlook 2007 is published by the American Bar Association's Law Practice Management Section and is a must-have for every lawyer who's ever wanted to pull out his (or her) hair over e-mail



management. If you'd like a copy of your own, at a 40 percent discount off the non-ABA member price of \$69.99, please call Kristi Skipper at (334) 517-2242 or e-mail her at kristi.skipper@alabar.org.

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The Gold Standard: Jones Law Students Win National Championship



Above, left to right, are Luevonda Ross, team coach, and team members Monica Jackson, Courtney Joiner, George Bulls and Mary Alexander-Oliver.

team of law students representing Thomas Goode Jones School of Law of Faulkner University won the national championship in the 2008 Thurgood Marshall National Mock Trial Competition. The competition, which is an annual trial tournament organized by the National Black Law Students Association, was sponsored by the New York-based law firm Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP. Six regional competitions were held prior to the national, final rounds. This year, the team from Jones won the Southern Region Championship in February, before competing in and winning the national finals in Detroit in March.

Team members Monica Jackson (3L), Courtney Joiner (3L), George Bulls (2L) and Mary Alexander-Oliver (2L) are all members of the Ernestine S. Sapp Black Law Students Association (BLSA) chapter at Jones. They defeated Texas Tech School of Law in the final round, to win the national championship.

The national competition simulated a criminal trial. Team members were scored by members of the bench and bar on their ability to present opening statements, closing arguments, direct and cross-examinations and pre-trial motions, as well as on their courtroom demeanor and professionalism.

The team's coach, Luevonda Ross, associate professor of law, observed their performance and said, "I was very

pleased and proud of our students. They were poised and nothing rattled them in the heat of the battle. This is a well-deserved honor."

"This victory caps off a very successful year for our student advocates," said Professor Robert McFarland, director of advocacy programs at Jones School of Law.

In addition to this national championship,

- The law school took four of the best advocates from its
 J. Greg Allen Trial Competition to the Buffalo/Niagara National Mock Trial Competition, and they won 3rd place;
- Jones School of Law won the Orlando regional of the National Trial Competition with two teams, and both finished in the top ten nationally, with Matthew Griffith and Parker Miller, last year's J. Greg Allen Trial Competition runners-up, finishing as national semi-finalists; and
- Jones law students were also regional semi-finalists in the AAJ National Trial Competition matching the school's best finish ever for that competition. All of this earned the school a #I national ranking for its trial program for the 2008 year (see http://www.lawschooladvocacy. com/2008trialad.html).

"We are very proud of our students and congratulate them on their success," said Charles Nelson, dean of the Thomas Goode Jones School of Law.



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Lawyers Render Service and So Do Judges

This circuit judge helps kids "mock" real-life problems and dangers

hile walking home from school, a 12-year-old boy gets in a car with some older kids. Before he gets in, he notices that they are smoking pot. He doesn't join in the smoking. They get pulled over by the police. As the police approach the car, the driver throws a bag of cocaine in the lap of the 12-year-old and asks him to hold it for him. He quickly throws it to the floorboard. The 12-year-old, to whom the cocaine did not belong and who did not even partake of the marijuana, is in deep trouble. The police find cocaine residue on his shirt. At his trial, he is represented by a peer—a 12-year-old.

Sound like a nightmare? Actually, it is only the facts for a mock trial. Not only is the accused 12 years old, but so are his lawyer, the prosecuting attorneys, the police officers, the forensic scientists, the court assistants, and even the judge. The students are supervised by a real judge— Scott Donaldson, of the Sixth Judicial Circuit in Tuscaloosa County, Alabama. He has been working with the sixthgrade students at Westlawn Middle School and conducting this mock trial program since before he became a circuit judge in 2003. As Donaldson explains, the mock trial serves many purposes. First and foremost, it gives the students an idea of the real justice system—not the courts of TV with which our society has become, unfortunately, increasingly familiar. The students learn about the rule of law, the concept of law-based decision-making (instead of decisions based on emotions or popularity) and the role that the many different positions play in our justice system. In addition, the students learn about career opportunitiesnot just lawyers, but also police, forensic scientists, court staff, court support personnel, etc. Of course, the students also learn a valuable lesson about drugs and how they must be careful in making decisions involving them.



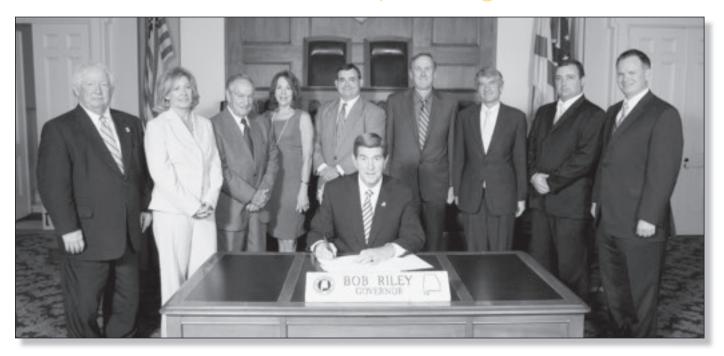
Circuit Judge Scott Donaldson

Donaldson meets with the students throughout the semester to discuss not just this mock trial, but the justice system generally, and the rule of law. He puts a face on our courts. Before becoming judge, the students were able to see and hear from Donaldson, as a lawyer, and they gained an understanding of who lawyers really are. Now that he has taken the bench, Donaldson personifies what a real life-judge does and what it means to be a judge. Even though judges are human, their decisions are not controlled by emotion or popularity, like the ones on TV. Obviously, Donaldson believes our schools play an important role in promoting an understanding of our judicial system. This mock trial is a great opportunity to explain how our courts work so that a student's exposure will not be limited to entertainment television. But, Donaldson's belief in the importance of education goes much deeper. Just as Donaldson did not walk away from the opportunity to work directly with these students when he became a circuit judge, he likewise continues to be involved in education. Donaldson has served as president of local PTA's and has also served on the State PTA Board of Directors.

We can all learn something from Judge Donaldson: If we want to change the perception of lawyers and our courts, we ought to start with our children.

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Mediation Confidentiality Bill Signed into Law



n May, Governor Riley signed the Mediation Confidentiality bill, Act No. 2008-387. This law ensures that, except as otherwise permitted by the Alabama Civil Court Mediation Rules, a mediator may not be compelled in an adversary proceeding or judicial forum to divulge contents of mediation documents, to divulge that the documents exist or to testify regarding the mediation.

The Alabama Center for Dispute Resolution, the Alabama Supreme Court Commission on Dispute Resolution, the Alabama State Bar ADR Committee, Sam Crosby, 2007-08 president of the Alabama State Bar, and Tom Whatley, chief of staff for Chief Justice Sue Bell Cobb, all worked diligently to promote the bill's passage. Special thanks go to Representative Demetrius Newton for HB30 and Senator Rodger Smitherman for SB133, and for their continued efforts over the past years.

ADR Mini-Grants Application Deadline is Near

Each year, the Alabama Supreme Court Commission on Dispute Resolution awards a few mini-grants for start-up or continuing mediation programs in courts, communities, agencies or schools. If you are interested in developing a program in your county, or training volunteer mediators in your court or schools, learn more by calling the Alabama Center for Dispute Resolution at (334) 269-0409. The grant application will be sent to you as an e-mail attachment. Grant deadline is October 1, 2008.

Pictured above at the signing were Hon. Quentin Brown, Birmingham mediator; Debra Leo, EEOC, and chair, Alabama Supreme Court Commission on Dispute Resolution; Hon. Gerald Topazi, Lt. Gov.-appointee to the Commission on Dispute Resolution; Judith Keegan, executive director, Alabama Center for Dispute Resolution; Scott Rouse, Governor's Legal Office and appointee to the Commission on Dispute Resolution; Hon. Ralph Coleman, district court appointee to the Commission on Dispute Resolution; Sam Crosby, 2007-08 ASB president; Scott Mitchell, Chief Justice Cobb's office; and Tom Whatley, chief of staff for Chief Justice Cobb.

Notice of and Opportunity for Comment on Amendments to the Rules of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2071 (b), notice and opportunity for comment is hereby given of proposed amendments to the Rules of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit.

A copy of the proposed amendments may be obtained after August 1, 2008 from the court's Web site at www.ca11.uscourts.gov. A copy may also be obtained without charge from the Office of the Clerk, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, 56 Forsyth St., N.W., Atlanta 30303 [phone: 404-335-6100]. Comments on the proposed amendments may be submitted in writing to the Clerk at the above street address by September 2, 2008.

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Register Now for the 2003 Federal Bar Association Annual Meeting & Convention in Huntsville, Sept. 18-20

his year's convention will offer the best and most diverse CLE courses presented at annual conventions in years! Here's a sampling of some of the topics already confirmed:

- Procurement Forecast for the Missile Defense Agency
- Legal Issues Concerning Space Travel to the Moon and Mars
- Buy America Trade Agreement and The Berry Amendment
- Professionalism and Bench/Bar Relations
- Class Action Litigation and Recent Developments in Federal Contracting Litigation
- Overview of the NASA Acquisition Integrity Program
- Appellate Practice in the Electronic Age
- Civil False Claims Act (FCA)
- An Overview of Congressional Earmarks
- · Patents and Copyrights Panel
- · Civil Rights and the Supreme Court
- Current Trends in Prison Conditions, Indigent Defense and Criminal Justice Policy

Receptions have also been planned at the Huntsville Botanical Gardens and the U.S. Space and Rocket Center. Saturday's events include the FBA Awards Luncheon and Reception and the Presidential Installation Ban-

quet which features the presentation of the Ilene and Michael Shaw Public Service Grants, President's Award, Sarah T. Hughes Civil Rights Award and Earl W. Kintner Award. There will be entertainment after the presentation of the awards and the installation of our own Alabama State Bar member, **Juanita Sales Lee**, as FBA president.



Juanita Sales Lee

For complete program and registration information, go to http://www.fedbar.org/H08_home.html or call FBA headquarters at 571-481-9100.

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