



President's Column: *End of an Era; Put That Phone Down!*

By J. William Manuel

You can hear the celebration on Fox News! It is the end of the infamous Manuel Administration of CABA. Like Nuke LaLoosh of Bull Durham fame, I want to be sure to cover all my clichés: “This year flew by;” “We built some fantastic memories;” “Sometimes it rains;” and “Pay no attention to the Man Behind the Curtain.” In all seriousness, I want to pay major thanks to my Board, Executive Director, Committee Chairs and Committee members. This year went smoothly mainly due to their hard work and dedication of the organization. We had an incredibly successful Diversity Summit. We threw a wonderful Golf and Croquet Tournament. We sponsored an inspiring essay contest. We helped people in need of pro bono representation. We hosted an elegant Evening Honoring the Judiciary. We had interesting lunch meetings. Finally, I want to thank you guys, the members, who put up with my goofy demeanor, rambling columns and forgetfulness of names. It is the collegiality of our membership that makes this a special bar association. I tip my hat to Judge Tiffany Grove and the new Board who will lead this group to new heights while I join the rest of the past leaders at the CABA Presidential Retirement Home.

I have to say a brief word about the passing of one of our members, Scotty Welch, who left us too soon. Scotty was usually a fixture at the front of our membership meetings and wasn't shy about voicing his opinions. He was a great lawyer and a wonderful friend. He will be missed.

My final Presidential Indulgence will be a brief rant about the epidemic of smart phone viewing I've noticed in the last few years. Younger lawyers in my firm are amazed when

I tell them that I used to practice without a cell phone and constant access to email and social media (their brains would explode if I told them I didn't even have a computer when I started as an associate). We all can admit that having a hand-held computer has made our legal lives easier in many ways. You can get an emergency email while out of the office. You can forward drafts of documents while sitting at a soccer game. We are no longer tethered to a desktop computer—which can be good.

The problem I see, however, is that many people have become more focused on their digital life than the real world around them. I can't count how many times I've either

“ Sometimes, actual conversation can be just as interesting as a post on social media.”

been with someone at lunch or in a meeting at the office when I am talking directly with someone and they look down at their phone and start typing or swiping away. Intended or not, that implies that what I'm saying isn't as interesting as what is going on in Instagram or a text chain. Is it that hard to wait until the end of a conversation or until you are in the hallway to get the digital fix? In addition, I think we have built up an expectation of instantaneous response to all communication, which is unsustainable. So, as my last gasps as President elapse, I ask all of you to consider leaving your phone in your purse or pocket when engaging with other live human beings. Sometimes, actual conversation can be just as interesting as a post on social media.

Thank you for letting me serve as your President. I enjoyed it. 🍷

Summer Issue

2

Good Reads:

Law as Literature

8

Good Food:

Blue Plate Highways

10

Good Works:

Free Legal Answers

13

Good Apps:

On Computing

Upcoming Events

AUGUST 20

Membership Meeting

Noon at the Capital Club

The views expressed in the articles published are solely those of the authors and do not represent the views of CABA, its officers, directors, or staff.

LAW AS LAMENT AND LITERATURE

*A Paeon to William Faulkner, his Pathos and Power,
and Maybe to Another of Humanity's Pilgrims*

By James L. Robertson



The first weekend in June of this year, a small but eclectic group of Mississippians—the Mississippi June Bug Society—made a visit to the Anderson Memorial Bridge where it lies across the Charles River, and well within the environs of Harvard University. The occasion—their obsession—was a search for the meaning and message of one of William Faulkner's most sympathetic and yet sad creations, the "late" and still so lamented Quentin Compson, III.

An homage to Quentin's lonely life and lonelier death has been said captured and enshrined in a small plaque affixed to the bridge.

In June of 1972, several students in an American Lit class at Harvard College, having read and come to know—to embrace—Quentin so fully, visited the bridge in the dark of night on the "anniversary" of his sad suicide. To their surprise, even amazement, these students had stumbled upon a small plaque which read: *Quentin Compson, III, June 2, 1910. Drowned in the fading of honeysuckle.*

Since that time the QCIII memorial plaque has had a poignant yet checkered history. And

has produced checkered memories of its history.¹ Its story has been told more than once.²

But you might say, all of this may be nice, but what does it have to do with the law? A hint of the answer might begin to emerge with the make up of this latest group of pilgrims.

Led by U. S. District Judge Michael Pious Mills, and including such multi-tasking worthies as U. S. Senator Roger Wicker and Mississippi state Senator Hob Bryan, the great majority of the group have law degrees, viz., Peyton Prospere, Jay Wiener and Dr. Philip Merideth of Jackson, along with Lucy Coolidge, James Kelly, Alysson Leigh Mills, Krystal Walker. Administrative Judge Linda Thompson and I were also there.

Formally, the event of June 2, 2019, was "The Quentin Compson Memorial Dinner and Symposium, The Sheraton Commander Hotel at Cambridge, MA." After remarks by eleven members, the group assembled in the night on the Anderson Bridge for a reverential service recalling those like Quentin who had lost their lives via suicide.³

The Essential Grounding for a Great Judge

But there is a broader perspective that should be brought to bear. A few years back, Mississippi born and bred Evelyn V. Keyes—Justice, Texas Court of Appeals—put

the point so well. One can never become "a great judge without a thorough grounding in what the humanities, including literature, as well as the law itself, really do have to teach us."⁴ Of course, the same may be said of lawyers like Gavin Stevens and Atticus Finch.

Speaking to the consumers of law—the citizenry—Keyes added that "[O]nly a morally literate and humanistically informed people can maintain a free society against the dehumanizing forces of totalitarian ideology and destructiveness that constantly assail it, for only then will they know what is at stake."⁵ And, given today's practical realities, against the meanness of narcissistic bullies, as well. In a prior life, yours truly reminded those who read law that a good judge "must possess the wisdom of Solomon, the patience of Job and the humanity of Shakespeare."⁶ More broadly, the law is one of the centerpieces of thought, meaning and activity that we label "the humanities."

Sadly, not every law school teaches much of this anymore. Sadly, so many of those who appreciate the law as a centerpiece humanity get little reinforcement from their colleagues among the bench and bar. "Getting and spending, we lay waste our powers."⁷ It is in this vein that the pilgrimage Judge Mills led

Continued on Next Page...

1. Stanley Stefancic, a Unitarian minister and former student in the Harvard Divinity School has reported that he put the original plaque in place, viz., "the plaque was affixed with epoxy glue on June 2, 1965, . . . the 55th anniversary of Quentin's suicide." Dale Russakoff, "Faulkner and the Bridge to the South," *The Washington Post*, July 21, 1985.

2. In addition to Russakoff, see also "Where, Why, Whence the Plaque?" *Harvard Magazine* (Summer 1972); and John Michael Baglione, "Bridge of sorrow, by way of Faulkner," *Harvard Gazette*, July 20, 2017.

3. These proceedings were videotaped, and the text of remarks made are available through the offices of Judge Mills, fearless leader of the Mississippi June Bug Society.

4. Evelyn Keyes, *The Literary Judge; The Judge as Novelist and Critic*, 44 *Houston L. Rev.* 679, 680 (2007).

5. Keyes, 44 *Houston L. Rev.* at 699.

6. *Cheek v. Ricker*, 431 So.2d 1139, 1143 (Miss. 1983).

7. William Wordsworth, *The World Is Too Much With Us* (1807).

in that first weekend in June of 2019 merits note and reflection—and repetition by others.

Law Among the Humanities

At least since Shakespeare, there has been a law and literature movement. Sadly, lawyers and judges have disregarded the practical reality that law lies among the great humanities, risking a lesser quality and quantity of justice and mercy. And of Tennyson's truth that "I am a part of all that I have met."⁸

Early on, most of us were exposed to the hard back two volume set, *The Law in Literature and The Law as Literature*, published in 1960.⁹ The gold standard today is the work of the prolific Richard A. Posner. All three editions of *Law and Literature*—see particularly Third Edition, 2009—were produced while Posner was also working full time as a judge on the U. S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit.

In 1984, the Mississippi College Law Review published *The Law and Southern Literature Symposium*, 4 Miss. Coll. L. Rev. 165–329 (Spring 1984). Focused on Faulkner, this work remains important, still yields insights. Justice Keyes has produced *The Literary Judge; The Judge as Novelist and Critic*, 44 Houston L. Rev. 679 (2007). I took my shot in *Practical Benefits of Literature in Law, and Their Limits*, 35 Miss. Coll. L. Rev. 266–342 (2016).

William Alexander Percy, author of *Lanterns on the Levee* (1941), was a lawyer, as have been so many other Percys, before and since. Roy Percy, U. S. Magistrate Judge in the Northern District of Mississippi, is only the most recent.

Most are aware of Faulkner and the law. His work was front and center in the M.C. Law Rev. Symposium back in 1984. So many of his tall tales long to be written as the statement of facts in the beginning of insightful legal opinions, followed by a discerning identification of the relevant rules of law, and, most importantly, a reliable application of those rules to the facts found, producing an adjudication worthy of

the judicial power and the constitution.¹⁰

Faulkner's magnificent exposition of the role of the courthouse in a community is front and center in my recent work.¹¹ Lawyer Gavin Stevens makes regular appearances on Faulkner's pages.

Quentin and Me

Quentin Compson, III, is at once one of Faulkner's more sympathetic and tragic characters. He has been brought to life in two great works. *The Sound and the Fury* (1929, 1956) and particularly in Part Two, *JUNE SECOND*, 1910, and *Absalom, Absalom!* (1936). These works have been widely read here and abroad.

More than thirty years ago, Alabama native Dale Russakoff reminded us that over the nine-month period commencing in September of 1909, "[h]opelessly out of place at Harvard, [Quentin] turned to reliving in his mind all the glory, guilt and doom of the southern past," to the point that "on June 2, 1910, he surrendered, caught between memories as sweet as honeysuckle and as dark as slavery."

Flatirons tied to his feet, Quentin leapt from the Anderson Bridge, plunged into the Charles River, and was swallowed by the still cold waters in the New England night.¹²

Many years later, on June 2, 1965, a small plaque was placed on the Anderson Memorial Bridge across the Charles River, connecting Cambridge and Allston. Stanley Stephancic, then a student at Harvard Divinity School, has reported that he affixed the "plaque . . . with epoxy glue . . . on 'a humid, foggy, rainy Cambridge evening,' the 55th anniversary of Quentin's suicide."¹³ Two weeks and a day later, on June 17, 1965, to be exact, I graduated from Harvard Law School, and—a celebration being in order—the next day a group of us loaded all of the beer we could get into several cars and headed north for Ipswich Beach. Even after the anesthetizing effects of several cans

of beer, the Atlantic waters were so so cold, unlike the Gulf of Mexico—theretofore the only off shore waters I had experienced. All of this while I was utterly unaware of the "fading of honeysuckle," or of the sad saga and suicide of Quentin Compson III, or of the successor plaque we found on June 2, 2019.

The Beginnings of a Heresy

Around the Millennium, I began sliding towards the beginnings of what some June Bugs might see as heresy. It actually dated back to early Ole Miss days and the awe that so many shared regarding William Faulkner's Nobel Prize. I began to hear that Faulkner was the second American to win a Nobel for literature. Fine, but—curiously—who was the first? Turned out it was a playwright named Eugene O'Neill. Not much of an impression, however, until at some point when I began hearing that O'Neill's best work was said to have been done **after** he won his Nobel. Interesting. I sort of had such as this in mind one weekend evening in my Three-L year (1964–65) when I took the Red Line into Boston to see the Charles Repertory Theatre's production of *A Touch of the Poet*. Understand that O'Neill was to New England more or less as Faulkner was to the South, and at roughly the same times. *Poet* was one of those plays that O'Neill had published after his Nobel. Once the curtains went up, I saw I was in for something special. Long before, I had read Faulkner's *Requiem for a Nun* and encountered what had become a famous Faulkner quote: "*The past is never dead. It isn't even past.*"¹⁴ A great, thought – provoking line.¹⁵ Fixed in my psyche, and resurrected from time to time. Fast forward.

At some point around the turn of the Millennium, I was in New York attending a highly acclaimed production of O'Neill's last

Continued on Next Page . . .

8. Tennyson, *Ulysses* (1842).

9. *The World of Law, The Law in Literature* (Ephraim London ed. 1960); *The World of Law, The Law as Literature* (Ephraim London ed. 1960). And before that see Cardozo's *Law and Literature and other Essays*, *Selected Writings of Benjamin N. Cardozo* (1938).

10. I have explained all of this more fully in my *Variations on a Theme by Posner: Facing the*

Factual Component of the Reliability Imperative in the Process of Adjudication, 84 Miss. L.J. 471-683 (2015), establishing once again the potency and power of the lawyer's imperative that one word should never be used when six or seven will do just as well.

11. See my *Heroes, Rascals, and the Law: Constitutional Encounters in Mississippi History*, 3 (2019), quoting Faulkner, *Requiem for a Nun*

35, 37 (Vintage Books, 1950, 1951).

12. Dale Russakoff, "Faulkner and the Bridge to the South," *The Washington Post*, July 21, 1985; brought forward by John Michael Baglione, "Bridge of sorrow, by way of Faulkner," *Harvard Gazette*, July 20, 2017.

13. Dale Russakoff, "Faulkner and the Bridge to the South," *The Washington Post* (July 21, 1985).

play, *Moon for the Misbegotten*. I was carried away, fixated, trying not to miss a word, when James Tyrone [fictional character patterned after O'Neill's older brother] exclaimed, "There is no present or future—only the past, happening over and over again, now!"¹⁶ Wow! Had I heard that right?!? After the play, I googled the line to be sure of the exact text. I had it right. Further investigation and it was clear that O'Neill had written *Moon* in 1943, at least seven years **before** Faulkner's *Requiem*. But then O'Neill's play was never published or produced until 1957 or so. No way to discern whether Faulkner knew about O'Neill, one way or the other.

Giving up on that search, the more important question became, were O'Neill and Faulkner saying the same thing?¹⁷ And, if so, who said it better? Or was not each to be cherished? Pondering this, one leads the sympathetic humanist to other parallels. Faulkner died in July of 1962 several months shy of his 65th birthday. O'Neill made it to 65 but just barely, dying in 1953. Both men abused their bodies and their health—and no doubt the productivity of their respective literary genius—with grossly excessive consumption of alcohol over the course of many years. The core literary contribution of each was by a wide margin in the field of tragedy,¹⁸ though each dabbled elsewhere on occasion.

Both Faulkner and O'Neill left us with unforgettable characters. People all, and possessed of a humanity and stories to tell. Our two for today are Faulkner's Quentin Compson, "born" as noted above, and O'Neill's quasi-auto-biographical Edmund Tyrone in *Long Day's Journey Into Night*.¹⁹ In *Journey* and near the end of the play, Edmund, facing a fate of tuberculosis for life, shared a reflection with his father. "It was a great mistake, my being born a man. I would have been much more successful as a seagull or a fish. As it is, I will always be a stranger who never feels at home, who does not really want and is not really wanted, who can never belong, who must be a little in love with death!"²⁰ Whether and to what extent is there a parallel in the lonely lives of Edmund Tyrone and Quentin Compson? For nearing the end of his last day, Quentin reflected, "the strange thing is that man[,] who is conceived by accident and [whose]... every breath is a fresh cast with dice already loaded against him[,] will not face that final main which he knows beforehand he has assuredly to face without his essaying expenditures ranging all the way from violence to petty chicanery."

This though it had been his mother's dream since he was born, for Quentin to go to Harvard, and "that no Compson has ever disappointed a lady."²¹ And then, after carrying his grandfather's watch—the one smashed to

slow the flow of time—into Shreve's room, putting it in his drawer, and brushing his teeth "the last note sounded... Before I snapped the light out I looked around to see if there was anything else, then I saw I had forgotten my hat."²² Soon the stuff of history and legend and memories fading with honeysuckle.

On the evening of June 2, 1910, Quentin succumbed—leapt off the Anderson Bridge. Thoughts may then turn to what in time would occur only—as the crow flies—a bit further down. Eugene O'Neill died in November of 1953, in Room 401 of what was then the Shelton Hotel overlooking the same Charles River. Only a short hop past the Anderson Memorial Bridge. Wife Carlotta and doctor, Harry Kozol, heard O'Neill whisper "I knew it. I knew it. Born in a hotel room, and, goddammit, died in a hotel room." His last words. Now officially Kilachand Hall at Boston University, though colloquially known Shelton Hall.

A Mississippi June Bug Society visit next year to the residential facility at 91 Bay Street, Boston, might round out a paean to the lost and lonely. And enhance our understanding of the humanity of those who seek out one form of suicide or another. ➡

14. Faulkner's *Requiem for a Nun* was completed in 1950.

15. I feature prominently two wonderful *Requiem* passages regarding the role and meaning of a courthouse in a southern community. See my *Heroes, Rascals and the Law: Constitutional Encounters in Mississippi History*, 3 (2019).

16. O'Neill's, *A Moon for the Misbegotten* (1957).

17. I have heard it said but never run to ground that both O'Neill and Faulkner got the idea from Marcel Proust. Not sure how to get that one past Rule 802. Perhaps a bevy of Rule 702-qualified experts could advance the ball.

18. Arezki Khelifa, *The Tragic in Selected Works by O'Neill and Faulkner* (2017).

19. Twenty-three years old in the play, *Long Day's Journey Into Night*, Edmund Tyrone is based on O'Neill himself.

20. O'Neill, *Long Days Journey Into Night* (1956).

21. Faulkner, *The Sound and the Fury*, 139 (1929; 1956).

22. Faulkner, *The Sound and the Fury*, 139 (1929; 1956).

SOCIAL MEDIA

Follow Us on Facebook & Twitter!



Statistics show that 90% of organizations now maintain social media profiles, and CABA is among that majority. You can find the Capital Area Bar Association's page on Facebook and find us on Twitter (@CABALaw). Social media is a simple way to improve communications within our organization, but we need our members to help to build an effective social media presence. If you are currently on Facebook or Twitter, please engage. Whether you like us, follow us, or comment on posts, you are helping build CABA's social media profile.

An Evening HONORING the JUDICIARY *Banquet*

Thanks to everyone who sponsored and attended the Evening Honoring the Judiciary on Thursday, May 16. As you can see from the photos, the event provides a great chance to catch up with fellow practitioners and judges, and to hear some words of wisdom from members of our bench. This year's speakers, Presiding Judge Virginia Carlton and U.S. District Judge Carlton Reeves, shared some experiences along their paths to becoming judges, and gave us all some insights into the important work that our judiciary handles every day. We also congratulated our CABA and JYL award winners, including JYL Outstanding Service Award winner, Lane Bobo; JYL Pro Bono Award winner, Caroline Ivanov; CABA Outstanding Service Award winner, Jason Fortenberry; CABA Outstanding Service Award winner, Keishunna Webster; CABA Pro Bono Award winner, Robert Arentson, Jr.; and CABA Professionalism Award winner, Fred Banks, Jr. We look forward to seeing everyone at next year's dinner, on Thursday, May 14, 2020.

..... *Event Photos*



continued on page 6...

An Evening HONORING THE JUDICIARY Banquet



continued on page 7...

An Evening HONORING THE JUDICIARY Banquet





By Chad Hammons¹

Cantonese Cuisine?

If you work in the CABA footprint, and you litigate for your groceries and to pay your house note and kids' tuition,² chances are good that you occasionally go to Canton for court. Years ago, I learned the hard way that when you go to court in Canton, you don't actually go to the courthouse in the middle of town, just like dozens of other small towns in Mississippi. Who knew? I for one didn't. But I learned: if you are going to Circuit or County Court, you go to the Justice Center, a block or so north of the Canton Square. If you are going to Chancery Court, you go to the Chancery complex situated on the north side of the Square.

Ahh, the Square. Again, unlike a lot of other small towns in Mississippi, Canton has been fortunate to keep a functioning and even vibrant Square. I'm sure multiple factors contribute to its continued vitality, including the unspoken rules forbidding any sort of foolishness there. From what I understand from folks in the know, there is an unspoken rule of zero tolerance for any sort of crime on or near the Square, and that if the rule is violated, maximum punishment will ensue, and it may or may not come from law enforcement.

Way back when, there was a really good restaurant called Davidson's on the northeast corner of the Square. One of my mentors from yesteryear, Steve Rimmer, turned me on to the bread pudding there. Like the cheesecake or

hot fudge pie from the Hoka back in the day, Davidson's bread pudding remains the standard of comparison, even though it is long gone.

Since then, there has been a succession of places in that space, including Cilantro, which wasn't bad. It had the misfortune though, of being owned by the guy who managed Nick's into its death spiral, according to a source who had an interest in Cilantro. Same story, different locale. Now that space is occupied by a restaurant called **Bettina's Soul Food Kitchen**, which I readily endorse, if you like soul food or plain ole country cookin'. It is close to the courthouses, and has a buffet, so it is easy in, easy out. Probably not a good place for folks taking statins.

“If soul food isn't your thing, or if you are a Madison County courtroom regular and need to spice it up a bit with a little international flair, there are three Asian restaurants in Canton to choose from.”

If soul food isn't your thing, or if you are a Madison County courtroom regular and need to spice it up a bit with a little international flair, there are three Asian restaurants in Canton to choose from. Each has something to offer that sets it apart from its competition. The most visible of the three is **China Buffet**, located on Peace Street, between the Square and I-55. This is pretty much a standard

Mississippi Chinese buffet, which means it is going to have chicken drummies, banana pudding or jello, and other not-so-traditional Asian cuisine. In terms of trying to mind my southern manners, I'll just say that seating is ample, and you can get in and out of there quickly, which is a plus if you have to be back in court in an hour.

The second contestant in the title quest for Best Asian Restaurant in Canton is a place no one has ever heard of, because no one really knows its actual name: **Dragon's Garden**. Canton residents³ generally refer to it as “Red Roof” because it has a tall, angular, red roof that cannot be missed if you are driving east from the Square on Peace Street, toward Hwy

43, rather than going back toward I-55.⁴ Red Roof was obviously something else many years ago, but I'm not sure what. My guess is it was a hamburger restaurant, but it looks like it could have been part of an old Howard Johnson's Motor Lodge.

Continued on Next Page ...

1. Chad Hammons is a partner in the Jackson office of Jones Walker LLP, where he practices in the Litigation Section, specializing in creditors' rights, bankruptcy, and commercial litigation.

2. It should be pointed out here that many defense lawyers who hold themselves out as “socially conscious” or who contend they would rather be “helping the little guy” often proffer a version of what has been called the “yuppie nuremberg defense”: I was only doing it to pay for private school!

3. Not sure of the demonym: Cantonians? Cantonites? Cantoneers? Cantonistas?

4. As those in the know know though, the better ingress/egress to/from Canton/Jackson is via Nissan Parkway to Hwy 51, through the south side of the Square.

Like China Buffet, Red Roof is a sit-down restaurant, but is menu-driven rather than buffet style. The prices are extremely reasonable, and the food is good. When I had lunch there a couple of months ago, I had General Tso's Chicken.⁵ My guest had cashew chicken. Both were quite good, with enough left for a take-home plate for dinner.

The final piece of the Asian culinary puzzle in Canton is **Wok to Go**. Situated in a small shopping center only a couple of hundred yards (if that) from Red Roof on Peace Street, **Wok to Go** rubs elbows with a

finance company, a check-cashing business, and a nail salon in the same complex. (For those who might want Mexican, **Santa Fe Grill** is in the same center). As its name suggests, **Wok to Go** is primarily a take-out place. Like Red Roof, **Wok to Go** is inexpensive, and the food is good, standard, Asian take-out. It sort of has a **Mr. Chen's** vibe, but without the seating area, fish tank, or buckets of frogs. Curiously, even though you can call in your order, they don't actually start making it until you get there and pay. I guess they've had some no-shows in the

past, which would understandably be quite frustrating.

Each place has its strong points and drawbacks. If crunched for time, **China Buffet** is probably the safest bet. If you finish your court appearance and don't have to worry about going back at 1:00 p.m., and want to sit down for lunch, **Dragon's Garden/Red Roof** is the way to go. And if you finish up late in the day, and want to get take-out for yourself or the entire family, **Wok to Go** is a great choice. ➡

5. As those in the know know though, the better ingress/egress to/from Canton/Jackson is via Nissan Parkway to Hwy 51, through the south side of the Square.

6. This brings to mind a question posed long ago: who is the bigger villain in chicken history? General Tso, or Colonel Sanders?

CABA June Membership Meeting

Magistrate Judge Linda Anderson and attorneys Graham Carner and Philip Hearn presented "Reminders in a Deadline Driven Profession" and CABA honored this year's essay contest winners.



CABA Members: *Click Here to*
PAY DUES ONLINE!



FREE LEGAL ANSWERS

Program Is No-Hassle Way to Provide Pro Bono Services

By Chris Shaw



Access to pro bono services in Mississippi has been made a little easier thanks to the State’s participation in the American Bar Association’s online legal advice clinic. Mississippi was one of eight states in the ABA’s

pilot program – ABA Free Legal Answers – to offer income-eligible¹ participants the ability to receive pro bono legal advice through an online forum. In this virtual pro bono legal clinic, attorneys can anonymously answer civil legal questions online when and where they choose. The online service, administered locally by The Mississippi Volunteer Lawyers Project (MVLP) and the Mississippi Access to Justice Commission, is now available in 35 states. “Free Legal Answers is a no-cost, online version of the walk-in clinic model where clients request brief advice and counsel about a specific civil legal issue from a volunteer lawyer,” said Linda Klein, former ABA President who served when the program first launched in 2016. “It is an important part of the ABA’s efforts to expand access to legal services to low-income communities. With our partner states, the program also provides significant pro bono opportunities for lawyers. It’s a real win-win.”

The website, ms.freelegalanswers.org, allows attorneys to answer the question and close it out or request additional information and keep the question open to be answered later. The site also allows attorneys to track the time they spend on the website for reporting pro bono hours to the Mississippi Bar. In 2011, Tennessee became the first state to launch the online program, using software created by the Baker Donelson firm. All state programs since are based on the Tennessee

1. Participants must have annual household income of less than \$23,760 for individuals or \$47,520 for a family of four and less than \$5,000 in assets.



Lawyers participating in “Clear the Queue” included Alex Martin, Steven Gray, Susan Floyd, Sam Morris, Tim Ngau and Chris Shaw with Entergy; Kate Margolis and Roy Campbell with Bradley; and Gayla Sanders with MVLP.

model. Gayla Sanders, Executive Director of MVLP, said that despite the ease of use the program has been slow to attract users or attorneys to answer questions. The MVLP has been working on some initiatives locally to remedy that. One such initiative was a recent “Clear the Queue” event – the first of its kind in Mississippi – where attorneys from Entergy and Bradley devoted an afternoon to clearing pending questions that had been submitted to the ms.freelegalanswers.org website. In two hours, the participating attorneys cleared the queue, responding to 27 pending legal questions.

“Entergy is always happy to partner with MVLP and firms like Bradley to help the communities we serve,” said Christy Kane, Pro Bono Counsel for Entergy Corporation. “Because of the lawyers’ efforts that day, 27 people across the state of Mississippi got answers to their most pressing legal questions – issues that impact their families’ daily lives. That’s time well-spent! And now those same lawyers have been trained on the website and can help people whenever they have time, from work or home.”

Kane said Entergy has already partnered with law firms in Louisiana on a similar program and has plans to do the same in Texas and Arkansas.

Attorneys fielding the questions are only to

provide direct answers, as well as any resources that might assist the user. The attorneys do not provide their contact information, write letters, make phone calls, or file documents for the user. The program answers only civil legal questions, not criminal. Typical questions include family law matters, such as divorce, child support, and custody; bankruptcy issues; consumer issues; employment matters; housing issues; workers compensation; and wills and estate planning. ➔

To get started, attorneys must first register on the ms.freelegalanswers.org website.

1. Go to ms.freelegalanswers.org.
2. Click on “Volunteer Attorney Registration” at the top of the screen.
3. In order to register, you must agree with the “Attorney Agreement” by clicking on the “I Agree” button at the bottom of the page.
4. You will then be prompted to (a) provide your email address; (b) create a password; (c) create a security question; and (d) enter the following: your name, bar number, organization name, phone number and address.

27th Annual GOLF OUTING

March 25, 2019 · Country Club of Jackson

The 27th Annual Lawyers Golf Outing was held on Monday, March 26th at the Country Club of Jackson. Proceeds from the tournament were donated to the MS Volunteer Lawyers Project. Shown are scenes from the tournament. A Big Thank You to all of our tournament sponsors for making this event possible.

EVENT PHOTOS



27th Annual
GOLF OUTING
EVENT PHOTOS

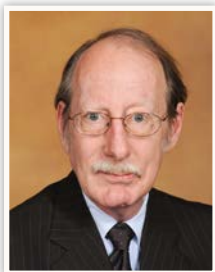


1st Annual
CROQUET OUTING
March 25, 2019 · Country Club of Jackson



» On Computing

Focused on the Contemporary Lawyer



By Joel Howell

Apps both old and new continue to improve your literacy and productivity. Here are several on both counts, with a few thoughts on what you may not know about the old and details on the new.

Adobe Acrobat Reader [both Android and IOS] (acrobat.adobe.com) is free through the Android and Apple stores. Notable functions include viewing and annotating PDFs. Many users give this app a high rating due to its reliability, price point, and annotating markup tools which are great for group projects and editing in general. The annotating feature works with a variety of paper sizes and can be paired with the next app.

Adobe Scan is another app provided free through the Android and Apple stores and can be paired with the Adobe Acrobat Reader – allowing easy document upload and storage to begin your work projects through the annotating features previously mentioned. Adobe Scan can be used on both a tablet and phones.

Clip Stack. This app is free through the Android store and functions best for those who need to use copied texts. When you copy a line of text, Clip Stack stores that copied information, allowing you to access it whenever you need. Also available for tablet use.

DocuSign (docusign.com) is also free through the Android and Apple stores, but there are paid plans available from \$120/year per person. Users find this app is best for electronically signing documents on the go. The app's purpose is to enable secure and official signing and delivery of documents, and has quickly become a staple in many fields.

Evernote (evernote.com) is free through the Android and Apple Stores, but plans for Premium membership are \$69.99/year. This app offers great functionality, allowing you to take notes in many formats including: type, voice memo, checklist, text note, or an image. With its optical character recognition (OCR) technology, this app allows for both typed text and handwriting to be scanned by your phones, then making the text searchable. There are also many notebook/ writing pad options through Evernote for converting handwritten notes into a digital format on the phone or tablet.

Google translate is free through the Apple store. One of its best features: through the use of your camera, text can be automatically

translated into your preferred language. This app is great for quick and reference on the go. Google Translate app has the ability to translate up to 103 languages with internet connection and 59 languages without internet connection. Additionally, the conversation feature allows for translations to be processed through the speaker on your phone as well as speaking your translated text in over 32 languages.

Hootsuite (hootsuite.com) is a social media managing app that allows you to update a company's Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, and LinkedIn pages, all from the same screen (and without having to log in to each individual account multiple times). Many users find the scheduling feature to be what really makes this app shine. It allows users to schedule hundreds of messages at a time, and then it will post your chosen content at your specified time. Plans start at \$29/month after a 30 day free trial. <https://hootsuite.com/plans/free>

Toggl (toggl.com) is for those who need to keep track of time. Available for your phone, tablet, and computer, it allows you to go anywhere and still have access. Many users like the reminder feature, which allows you to never forget. Once you've completed a task, Toggl will calculate the time spent, all you have to do is analyze its findings and adjust where needed. Toggl is free, but premium features start at \$9/month.

HelloSign (hellosign.com) is great for IOS users needing to sign documents on the go. HelloSign allows you to sign contracts which are organized inside the secure HelloSign system, allowing you to have digital copies wherever you go. This is a free app for limited use; upgraded plans are available starting at \$13/month.

Duolingo (duolingo.com) is for those trying to learn a new language in order to better communicate with clients or co-workers. Many users find Duolingo is easy to use and provides simple daily exercises geared towards making you more familiar with your chosen language to learn. One of its many features include interactive games designed to get you started in the language learning process. Duolingo can customize the amount of time for each session, offering daily lessons for as little as 5 minutes a day, all the way up to 30 minutes a day. This app is available through both the Android and Apple stores. ➡



Questions or comments?

Drop me an email: jwh3@mindspring.com

MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE LAW LIBRARY HOURS

FALL 2019

August 18—December 5

Monday—Thursday 7:00 am—midnight
 Friday 7:00 am—7:00 pm
 Saturday 9:00 am—7:00 pm
 Sunday noon—midnight

Final Exam Hours to be posted at a later date.

Hours subject to change without notice.

For more info call the Circulation Desk at 601-925-7120

EXCEPTIONS

LABOR DAY HOLIDAY: August 30—September 2

Friday (Aug 30) 7:00 am—5:00 pm
 Saturday—Monday (Aug 31—Sep 2) CLOSED

FALL BREAK: October 17—October 20

Thursday and Friday (Oct 17–18) 7:00 am—5:00 pm
 Saturday (Oct 19) 9:00 am—7:00 pm
 Sunday (Oct 20) noon—midnight

THANKSGIVING: November 22—December 1

Friday (Nov 22) 7:00 am—5:00 pm
 Saturday and Sunday (Nov 23–24) CLOSED
 Monday and Tuesday (Nov 25–26) 7:00 am—5:00 pm
 Wednesday – Sunday (Nov 27–Dec 1) CLOSED



OFFICERS

J. William Manuel President	Tiffany P. Grove Vice President
Jennie A. Eichelberger Secretary—Treasurer	Tiffany M. Graves Past President

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jane Collins Harkins

NEWSLETTER EDITORIAL BOARD

A. Kate Margolis—**Editor**

DIRECTORS

Christina M. Seanor— Post 1	Andrew S. Harris President, Jackson Young Lawyers
Clarence Webster, III— Post 2	
Kaytie M. Pickett— Post 3	La'Toyia Slay Cooley President-Elect, Jackson Young Lawyers
Lanny R. Pace— Post 4	

Luke M. Dove	James L. Robertson
Matt Eichelberger	Ira Rushing
Chad Hammons	Stevie Rushing
John C. Henegan	Terryl Rushing
Joel W. Howell	Linda A. Thompson
	Christopher R. Shaw

Correspondence regarding the newsletter should be directed to: CABA Newsletter Editor, 151 E. Griffith Street, Jackson, MS 39201. Letters to the editor must be signed, but the writer's name will be withheld upon request. Telephone inquiries should be made to the Executive Director at 601.969.6097.

Visit our website at www.caba.ms