



A REPORT TO MEMBERS OF  
THE SOUTH CAROLINA BAR  
YOUNG LAWYERS DIVISION

## Don't Bemoan Milestones

By John Gardner



After weeks of fording streams, starry nights, hunting for food, and traversing the rugged terrain of the Scottish highlands, you wearily approach the top of a high summit. You see a familiar sight: the cairn above your village. This mound of stones is familiar. It marks that you are close to home. You have but miles to go before you sleep and miles to go before you sleep.



Being a new attorney is nowhere near as difficult as the challenges our, or at least my, ancestors bore only a few hundred years ago. Yet often it feels so, despite the blessings of modern luxury. My prayer in writing this short bit is to offer some encouragement by discussing the importance of life's cairns, also known as milestones.

Before I do so, let me first congratulate all who are reading. You are an attorney. This is a mighty accomplishment. While now the butt of everyone's lawyer jokes, do not despair. You have done what few achieve and many only dream. Take joy, honor, and humility in this recognition. This is a shared milestone; may it unify all of us in our pursuit of the practice of law.

To the meat —or haggis —of what I wanted to say. Milestones reveal where you've been. Like the Scotsman away from home, the cairn revealed his long trek. Milestones help recollect old stories, places, and friends we have met in our travels. Take time to reflect on your past milestones. I am often surprised at the insight they offer. In fact, some of life's best milestones are only seen in the clarity of hindsight.

Milestones guide where you're going. The Scotsman looked for the cairn to know his village was close. That is, he was going in the right direction. By setting milestones, we direct our steps to the future. However, don't be fooled, we have so little

control of our life's direction. Or as the cliché goes, life is what happens to you while you're making plans. We all need a little Scottish stubbornness to continue doing so.

What is next? I'd commend to you to reflect and set milestones of all kinds, and most importantly not of a professional kind alone. "Firsts" and "lasts" are natural, easy, milestones to set, but much of life is spent between the first and last time you do something. Find a community who shares the past and future milestones. Find those with courage to advise you on poor milestones or help carry the burden of setting new ones.

I need these words of advice as much as anyone else. Often hearing today's news, the newest political whirlwind, or myriad existential threats to the good order of this world, it is easy to be dismayed. Yet, I've come to find, and hope you will too, that the practice of reflecting and setting milestones helps alleviate the effect of modern-day information whiplash. It grounds the soul. It helps identify the solid rock upon which our soul rests. Just hope the rock you've staked your claim is enough to withstand these influences! I digress...

If we do not do so, I am afraid we'll be forced to pay the piper.

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# What's Been Happening?



The **4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Circuits** had a joint event this fall. The event consisted of a golf tournament, painting class, Mexican dinner and Margarita bar.

## Pro bono panel offers ideas for getting involved

The YLD Pro Bono Committee hosted a Pro Bono Lunch and Learn on Dec. 1. Attendees heard from a panel of lawyers and U.S. Bankruptcy Court **Judge John E. Waites** discussing the importance of pro bono work and their personal experiences with pro bono efforts.

Thanks to Judge Waites, moderator **Lyndey Bryant of Adams and Reese LLP**, **Kirby D. Shealy III of Adams and Reese LLP**, and **Laura Musselman of K&L Gates**.

Attendees had the opportunity to chat with several non-profits from across the Palmetto State about ways to get involved. Charleston Pro Bono Legal Services, South Carolina Victim Assistance Network (SCVAN) and the University of South Carolina School of Law's Palmetto Leader were all in attendance to provide resources about different pro bono opportunities.

The American Bar Association, through its Pro Bono Now campaign, is encouraging attorneys across the country to commit to providing 10 hours of pro bono legal assistance through the end of 2021. Check out ways to get involved at [www.scbar.org/probono](http://www.scbar.org/probono) or contact SC Bar Pro Bono Program Director Betsy Goodale at [bgoodale@scbar.org](mailto:bgoodale@scbar.org)



Congratulations to the winners of the **Make-A-Wish Committee's** virtual Halloween Costume Contest held in October.

- Best Pet Costume - Cruella de Vil - **Caroline Latimer**
- Best Family Costume - Heinz - **Mike Burch & family**
- Best Couple Costume - Elliot and Gertie from E.T. - **Ashlee Edwards**
- Best Individual Costume - Blue Car Dealership monster - **Jeanmarie Tankersley**

Thank you to everyone who participated and made this virtual contest great!



Attorneys often spend a lot of time sitting behind our desks. As young attorneys, it is imperative to start healthy habits early and find a healthy work/life balance. A new study promoted by NBC in September of 2021 indicates that logging 7,000 steps a day may go a long way toward improving your health.

In an effort to encourage healthy habits, the **YLD Wellness Committee** challenged all YLD members to log 200,000 steps from November 15 to December 15. All members who completed this challenge were entered into a drawing for prizes.



The 9th Circuit and Membership committees joined Charleston Legal Access for their Fall Into Justice fundraiser. The event, held at the Palmetto Brewery featured fun, food and games for all ages



The **Voices Against Violence Committee** held a drive to benefit families in need at domestic violence shelters throughout October and November. Thanks to the generosity of SC Bar members, the drive raised approximately \$100 in gift card donations, boxes of paper goods, boxes of Clorox Wipes, masks, personal hygiene items, blankets, clothing, and toys. The items were distributed to Sistercare in Columbia, My Sister's House in Charleston, and Safe Harbor in Greenville to help families start their new lives. Thank you to everyone who donated and those who worked to make this drive a success!



The Families Forever Committee held a Foster Care Toy Drive to bring holiday joy to children in need in December. The committee encouraged all members to donate gift cards, arts and craft kits, remote control cars, sports items, batteries and more. Here are some of the donations. Thanks, YLD members, for giving during the holidays! Oh, what fun! We enjoyed seeing our members and their families at the Riverbanks Zoo Lights Before Christmas last week. Attendees got to watch a parade, enjoy s'mores and hot chocolate, and experience Columbia's longest-running holiday tradition. Thank you to everyone who came out and made this event a success!



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## Stars of the Quarter

**Lyndey Bryant**

**Bailey Crosby**

**Taylor Currin**

**Zac Fry**

**Shauna Gibson**

**Jeff Gurney**

**Mary Catherine Harbin**

**Jonathan Lewis**

**Natalie Maier**

**Leslie McIntosh**

**La'Jessica Stringfellow**

**Assatta Williams**



# South Carolina Bar

Young Lawyers Division

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## Letter from the President



Dear Young Lawyers,  
Happy Holidays! I hope you all are enjoying this season with your friends and family. This time of year can be particularly hectic

with the mix of year-end work pressure and the exciting, but oftentimes overwhelming, holiday schedule. Please be sure to take time for yourself, relax, and enjoy the niceties of the season. Check in on your loved ones and look out for each other's mental health.

The YLD Membership Committee, through the work of Leslie McIntosh and Shauna Gibson, have put together wellness activities for YLD members to keep us active and healthy through the winter season! I encourage you to check out their latest challenges in our announcements emails.

To all the newly admitted attorneys, congratulations and welcome to the South Carolina Bar's Young Lawyers Division! We are thrilled to have you as part of our community. Our Cir-

cuit Representatives have been hosting New Admittee Receptions across the state to welcome the new members. If you meet a newly admitted attorney, we hope that you share the joy of our profession and community and encourage them to become involved with the YLD! As a reminder, newly admitted attorneys are automatically members of the YLD, no sign up or fee required. Being active in the YLD is a great way to meet other lawyers across the state, develop professionally, and give back to our communities.

The YLD committees and leaders have been active in planning events across the state. The Voices Against Violence Committee hosted a necessities drive, which had a great turnout and will provide basic necessities for individuals and their families in domestic violence shelters throughout South Carolina. Down in Charleston, members of the YLD enjoyed participating in Charleston Legal Access' Fall into Justice Festival, while members from all over South Carolina supported

the Make-A-Wish Foundation through a costume contest. The Pro Bono Committee hosted a Lunch and Learn in Columbia focusing on pro bono opportunities for young lawyers. It has been a busy couple of months!

Finally, please be sure to attend the Bar Convention coming up in Greenville January 20-23. The YLD Bar Convention Committee, led by Emily Bridges, Meredith Ross, and Julia Bradshaw, put together an excellent program for our members. Even if you do not register for the Convention, you can still join us for our annual Oyster Roast. Hands down, one of the most fun events of the year! Look out for registration details in your inbox.

I hope 2022 will be our best year yet!

Jeanmarie Tankersley  
YLD President