The President’s Message:

Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland

Continuing with the theme of Access to Justice, this month we highlight the Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland (PBRC). PBRC is the “pro bono home” of Baltimore Bar Association. The mission of PBRC is “to inspire and enable the Maryland legal community to meaningfully serve those in need.”

PBRC recruits, trains, and mentors attorneys from all practice areas to use their legal skills in pro bono settings, organizations, and communities in need. Most of the volunteers are paired with other unaccompanied children or organizations that serve diverse populations addressing a myriad of issues including homelessness, elder abuse, wage dispute, family court proceedings; and (3) Pro Bono Work in Professional Development. The Journal of the Trial Practice Committee, 23(3), 17-19.

Many clients receive valuable legal information and critical legal services through direct self-help service projects, and if necessary are referred to pro bono lawyers for full representation. According to Brian Murray, director of the Volunteer Lawyer of the Day Program (VLVD), and the Maryland Immigrant Legal Assistance Project, attorneys assist Maryland tenants who are sued on an overflow plate, all is not lost. It is never too late to join and become active in a law bar association.

If you want to learn more about the YLD please feel free to join us at our monthly meetings or membership events, which can be found on the bar calendar at https://www.baltimorebar.org/.

Young Lawyers’ Division Update: It Is Never Too Late (Or Too Early) To Get Involved

The University of Baltimore School of Law held its annual Student Activity Fair on Wednesday, August 28. The event was well attended by students and by a variety of specialty and regional bar associations. Many of the students I had the opportunity to speak with are first-year JD candidates who are still trying to get their heads to stop spinning from all the information being thrown at them. So now we were asking them to sign up for the BABC and put one more thing on their already overflowing plates.

Kidding aside, we explained the many benefits the Bar Association of Baltimore City (BABC) has to offer these students, both now and in their future careers; but we also made sure to highlight how these opportunities would still be there after they had settled in and accustomed to law school life. I hope they listened because the BABC is a wonderful resource for law students, not just admitted and established attorneys.

We have all heard stories about passive aggressive competitiveness and jockeying for position that goes on in law schools. Although I do not specifically recall experiencing it, I have heard numerous stories from law students about how they do not feel particularly connected to their classmates because of it. Much like a law student, being a young attorney in the competitive and high stress field of law is emotionally draining and can be isolating. One great thing about the BABC is that its members are collaborative, supportive, and generally care about each other’s well being. This is particularly true in the Young Lawyers’ Division (YLD). In my experience, YLD members respect and understand the difficulties their fellow members are facing on a daily basis. YLD members are there to offer advice or to just listen. Because our membership is so varied in their areas of practice, it is also a great way to find out about the types of issues or benefits that lawyers face in other fields of law, and to find opportunities that you might not otherwise learn about.

Establishing connections through the bar is just Cate Cenna at cscenna@probonomd.org.

Resources and Thanks to: Sharon E. Goldsmith, Esq., Executive Director – PBRC

End of Summer Members’ Reception – FREE Admission!

The 13th Annual End of Summer Members’ Reception will be held on Tuesday, September 24, 2019, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Clarence Mitchell Courthouse, 108 N. Calvert Street, Room 243, from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m., for very interesting presentations and conversations with local authors and lawyers. Our first presentation will be on The Ghosts of Johns Hopkins. The Life and Legacy that Shaped an American City on Thursday, September 26, 2019, presented by author Antero Pietila. Members and friends of the BABC and the Bar Library are invited to attend. Admission is FREE – Space is Limited. Register now by emailing info@baltimorebar.org. We look forward to seeing you on Thursdays at the Museum!

BABC Accepting Nominations for the 2019 Presidential, Dorsey and Dorf Awards – Nominations due by Tuesday, October 1

The BABC is accepting nominations for the 2019 Presidential, Dorsey and Dorf Awards. Nominations are due no later than Tuesday, October 1, 2019. Awards will be presented at the Past Presidents Luncheon to be held on Tuesday, November 26, 2019. All nomination forms and past recipients of each award can be found at www.baltimorebar.org.

BABC/YLD Mentoring Program Looking for Mentors/Mentees – Sign up NOW!

The Bar Association of Baltimore City Young Lawyers’ Division Mentorship Program is looking for mentors and mentees for 2019-20. The YLD Mentorship program matches new attorneys having less than seven (7) years’ experience with attorneys who have been barred for seven (7) years or more. Our goal is to advance our profession and the practice of law in Baltimore by building these relationships. Our profession is elevated when new attorneys can learn from the experiences of veteran attorneys they may not have otherwise met. The relationship between the Mentor and the Mentee is intended to be a benefit to both parties, because both will inherently grow their network and learn from sharing their experiences. We will pair participants who match interests and career fields as indicated on the application form. Our goal is for each pair to meet one-on-one on at least one occasion that fits the participants’ schedules. We will periodically suggest BABC and YLD events and other opportunities to facilitate these relationships, however, we encourage the participants to arrange meetings in whichever fashion is most meaningful and productive for them. All participants must be members in good standing of the Bar Association of Baltimore City. Applications are due Friday, September 20, 2019. To fill out an application, go to www.baltimorebar.org.

Support the Bar Association of Baltimore City by Becoming a Sustaining Member

Sustaining Membership provides an opportunity for BABC members to support the mission, growth, and success of the Association by paying an additional $175 above the regular dues amount. The good works of the BABC, serving both the legal community and the public, is not possible without the generous spirit and unwavering commitment our members have to the ideals of the Bar Association of Baltimore City. Sustaining Members will receive the following benefits to acknowledge the members generous support: listing on the BABC’s Website, recognition in BABC print and electronic publications, a special ribbon on name badges to wear at BABC functions, a lapel pin reflecting Sustaining Membership status, use of the BABC logo on a member’s website to highlight his/her support, recognition in the Annual Meeting program and acknowledgment at the End-of-Summer Members’ Reception. When paying your dues, please elect to become a Sustaining Member. The BABC thanks you for your generous support!
MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

- September 16 – 19: Bench/Bar Wellness Week
- September 24: BABC’s End of Summer Members Reception
- September 26: Thursdays at the Museum of Baltimore Legal History
- October 3: BABC Annual Crab Feast at Bo Brooks
- October 12: YLD Public Service Volunteer Event
- October 17: Senior Legal Services Fundraiser
- October 22: Baltimore Bar Foundation Symposium
- More information coming soon!
- October 24: Thursdays at the Museum of Baltimore Legal History
- October 30: Museum of Baltimore Legal History Volunteer Recognition Lunch
- November 19: Constitutional Law Seminar
- November 21: Thursdays at the Museum of Baltimore Legal History
- November 26: 25th Annual Past Presidents’ Luncheon
- December 4: BABC’s Annual Holiday Party
- December 7: New York City Bus Trip
- December 10: YLD Annual Holiday Party for Children Living in Shelters

The Bar Association of Baltimore City
Crab Feast at Bo Brooks

2780-A Lighthouse Point
Baltimore, MD 21224
(located in 2700 block of Boston Street)

Come join us for:
- Steamed Crabs
- Maryland Style Crab Soup
- Grilled Hamburgers and Hot Dogs
- BBQ Chicken
- Corn on the Cob
- Tomato/Cucumber Salad
- Cookies and Brownies
- Soft Drinks, Iced Tea, Beer and Wine

Members and Guests: $75  |  Children 10 or under: $35

There are a limited number of parking spots in the parking lot at Lighthouse Point. Bo Brooks validation is good for two hours of free parking. Each additional hour is $6. There is unrestricted street parking as well.

Register Early - Space Limited!!

To register or for more information, visit www.baltimorebar.org.

REGISTER EARLY - ALWAYS SELL OUT! GREAT DOOR PRIZES! DRESS: CASUAL

Special Thanks to Our Annual Corporate Sponsors

The Bar Association of Baltimore City encourages its members to patronize the following businesses that generously support our organization. When you contact our sponsors, please mention this ad and that you are a member of the Bar Association of Baltimore City.

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The Bar Association of Baltimore City Historical Committee &
The Library Company of the Baltimore Bar

Present

Thursdays at the Museum!

Please join us at the Museum of Baltimore Legal History located in the Clarence Mitchell Courthouse, 100 N. Calvert Street, Room 243, from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m., for very interesting presentations and conversations with local authors and lawyers.

September 26, 2019
Antero Pietila

“The Ghost of Johns Hopkins: The Life and Legacy that Shaped an American City”

Author Antero Pietila spent thirty-five years as a reporter and editor with the Baltimore Sun, most of it covering the city’s neighborhoods, politics, and government. A native of Finland, he became a student of racial change during his first visit to the United States in 1964.

Members and friends of the BABC and the Library Company are invited to attend.

Admission is FREE – Space Limited.

Register now by emailing info@baltimorebar.org.

We look forward to seeing you on Thursdays at the Museum!

The Bar Association of Baltimore City

13th Annual

End of Summer Members’ Reception

Tuesday, September 24, 2019
Clarence Mitchell Courthouse
100 N. Calvert Street
Kaplan Court, 2nd Floor
Baltimore, MD 21202
5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Come join members of the Judiciary and your Colleagues at the Bar to celebrate the end of summer and the beginning of the new Association year!

Menu includes hors d’oeuvres, carving station, salad, dessert, wine and soft drinks.

BABC members only – admission is FREE!!

RSVP to info@baltimorebar.org

Sponsored by the Bar Associations Insurance Trust

NOMINATE A MARYLAND BUSINESS OR LEGAL ICON TODAY!

The Icon Honors awards recognizes business and legal leaders over the age of 60 who have left an indelible mark on their field and whose integrity, vision and selfless service have lifted up the entire community.

Nominate online: https://thedailyrecord.com/icon-honors/

NOMINATIONS CLOSE
SEPTEMBER 24

SAVE THE DATE:
December 16, 2019

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