

YLD...In Brief

The Official Newsletter of the Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of New Mexico

March 2005

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Minority Students Visit Law School for Mentorship Mixer

By Denise Chanez, 3L
UNM School of Law

More than 50 minority high school and college students visited the University of Mexico School of Law on March 5th for the First Annual Minority Mentorship Mixer. The purpose of the event was to



encourage minority students to pursue higher education and consider careers in law. At the mixer, high school and college students heard from several speakers including, New Mexico Supreme Court Justice Patricio Serna, Assistant U.S. Attorney Ray Hamilton, and UNM law student Deborah Haaland. The students had an opportunity to meet and



talk with attorneys and judges about careers in different areas of the law. Law students also gave tours of the law school and talked with the students about their experiences in law school. In addition, each high school and college student received information about applying to law

school, as well as information on financial aid and scholarships. UNM law students from the Mexican American Law Student Association, the Black Law Student Association, the Native American Law Student Association, and the Asian American Law Student Association organized the event. The mixer was co-sponsored by the Young Lawyers Division and other student groups and community organizations.

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YLD First Annual SKI-LE



By Román R. Romero

The Young Lawyer's Division of the State Bar of New Mexico recently co-sponsored a "Ski-LE" event in conjunction with the Center for Legal Education. This fabulous two day event was held in Ruidoso, NM from February 25 - 27, 2005. Many YLD members and a handful of other attorneys took advantage of the excellent opportunity to obtain over seven hours of continuing legal education credit while making time to get away and relax in the snowy mountains of Ruidoso. While in Ruidoso, the Ski-LE'ers were housed in centrally-located condos from which they could shop, ski or relax. The event was perfectly planned for skiers as Ski Apache was pounded with almost one foot of new snow just prior to the commencement of the event. Looks like Rob Koonce ordered just the right amount of snow! At the seminar portion of the event, attendees benefited from interesting and useful subjects, including ethics and professionalism, presented by Max J. Madrid and Stan Harris, depositions presented by Trent A. Howell, motions and pleadings presented by Lisa A. Chavez, and gaming law presented by Carla Lopez and Morris "Mo" Chavez respectively. Needless to say, the event was a huge success. The YLD is thankful for the great work from our co-sponsor and the great job of our seminar instructors. We hope to see you next year!

ABA/YLD Report

By Morris J. Chavez, District 23 Representative (NM & AZ)

For those of you who were unaware, the Young Lawyers Division of the American Bar Association is one of the world's largest voluntary professional organizations. Currently, I am proud to be serving as the District 23 Representative for the 2004-2006 term. District 23 of the ABA/YLD National Council is comprised of New Mexico and Arizona. Every two years, the District 23 Representative is alternated between New Mexico and Arizona. In this capacity, I work closely with YLD affiliates from both New Mexico and Arizona to increase membership in the ABA/YLD and make ABA/YLD programs accessible to the members of the various state and local affiliates.

The ABA/YLD is constantly trying to increase its membership and make itself more accessible to young lawyers from all around the country. The ABA/YLD offers bar leadership programs, professional development seminars, and many relevant CLE programs for its members. In addition to these outstanding member services, the networking aspect of the ABA/YLD is invaluable. The other young lawyers I have met from around the county at various ABA/YLD meetings have been an important part of my professional growth as a young lawyer. I strongly suggest joining the ABA/YLD so you can judge for yourself the great member benefits that the ABA/YLD can provide. If you are interested, please feel free to contact me or go to the ABA/YLD Web site at <http://www.abanet.org/yld/home.html/> for more information.

Region V Report (Second and Thirteenth Judicial Districts, Catron, Socorro and Torrance Counties)

by S. Carolyn Ramos, Director



With the help of Region V member Raul Sedillo, the We the Jury program has been implemented at Los Lunas High School. We The Jury is a classroom program that incorporates a curriculum guide, a video of a mock civil and criminal trial, and one to two volunteer attorneys in an effort to educate and inspire students about the jury system in the United States. Designed to be interactive and informative, We The Jury will teach students about the creation and evolution of the jury system throughout history and how the right to trial by jury came to be guaranteed to all American citizens by the United States Constitution and the Bill of Rights. For more information or to bring the program to your alma mater, contact Region V Director Carolyn Ramos at scramos@btblaw.com.

The Mexican American Law Student Association (MALSA) hosted a Student Law Mixer at the Law School on March 5, 2005. The YLD co-sponsored the information session for students interested in attending law school. The mixer was a huge success. In attendance were local high school and college students, teachers, parents, community members, law professor, attorneys and judges. Justice Patricio Serna delivered the welcome and words of inspiration. YLD members Roxanna Chacon, Carolyn Ramos and Margarite Carr interacted with participants and encouraged them to pursue their interests in the law and attending law school.

By popular demand Region V will host the second "Taking the Mystery out of Federal Court - A Judicial Brown Bag Luncheon" in May. Stay tuned for more information.

Jobs Jobs Jobs.....

By John Feldman, Director of UNM School of Law Career & Student Services

Did you know that, according to the first-ever ten-year study of new lawyers, more than a third of them changed jobs within their first three years of practice? That is the kind of thing that the staff of the UNM Office of Career & Student Services knows. They also know about the things that can help young lawyers find satisfaction in law.

The UNM School of Law Office of Career & Student Services is not just there to serve the needs of students. It exists to assist graduates of UNM, as well as graduates of other law schools through reciprocal agreements, with their career development. It also exists to help legal employers connect with law students and lawyers to meet their full and part-time employment needs. The Career & Student Services Office has been working with lawyers and legislators to create avenues for loan payment assistance for DA's, PD's and legal services providers. Staff also collaborate with YLD and various State and local bar committees to make programs and services meaningful for young lawyers.

Two attorney counselors are available to assist UNM graduates with the inevitable snags and challenges that face lawyers in their careers, as well as to assist them with counseling services to help lawyers find satisfaction in their work. Those who have studied lawyer satisfaction with their work find many attorneys are doing the wrong kind of law work.

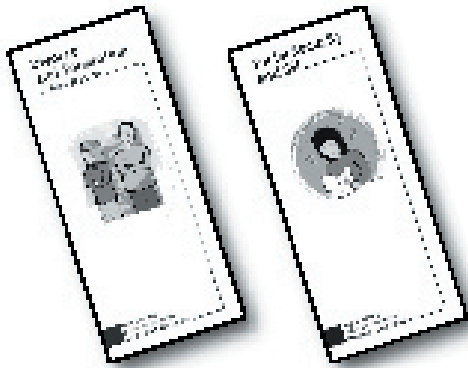
Talking to John Feldman, Director, or Bonnie Stepleton, Assistant Director, may help a new lawyer--or someone who is seasoned--find new inspiration for their work life. John Feldman graduated from UNM Law School in 1989 and Bonnie Stepleton got her JD from UNM in 1987. Both have a wide knowledge of the legal market place in New Mexico and lots of experience for young lawyers to draw on. They work with Young Lawyers Division on its mentorship program for law students. A by-product of that program for YLD members is the chance it affords them to network about their own work experiences with others young lawyers.

UNM Law School Career & Student Services maintains a free listing of job openings for graduates. Contact the office at 277-0028 or by e-mail if you are a UNM graduate and would like to get e-mails of job postings. The Career & Student Services web page at the Law School's web site hosts lots of current information of value to young lawyers.

Friday, April 22, the Office of Career & Student Services and the State Bar will sponsor a CLE with the young lawyer in mind. It will focus on what are the "best" jobs in law, and will feature national law career expert Hindi Greenburg, also known as the "Ann Landers for Lawyers." She is author of *Breaking Traditions: Work Alternatives for Lawyers*, published by the ABA, and *The Lawyer's Career Change Handbook*. This CLE will be held at the State Bar Center, and you can contact Rob Koonce at the State Bar, or UNM Career & Student Services, for more information.

2005 YLD Calendar of Events

January 22	YLD Board Meeting (Albuquerque, NM)
February 26	YLD Ski-CLE (Ruidoso, NM)
February 18	YLD/ABA Law Student Section Mixer (Albuquerque, NM)
March 5	YLD/UNM School of Law – Minority Student Mentorship Mixer (Albuquerque, NM)
March 19	YLD Board Meeting (Las Cruces, NM)
March 23	YLD/UNM School of Law Mentorship Social (Albuquerque, NM)
March 24	YLD Brown Bag Luncheon (Albuquerque, NM)
April 13	YLD Brown Bag Luncheon (Albuquerque, NM)
May 14	YLD Board Meeting (Albuquerque, NM)
May 19-21	ABA/YLD Spring Meeting (Miami, FL)
July 16	YLD Board Meeting (Farmington, NM)
August 4-6	ABA/YLD National Meeting (Chicago, IL)
September 23	YLD Annual Meeting – State Bar Convention (Ruidoso, NM)
October 6-8	ABA/YLD Fall Meeting (Louisville, KY)
November 4	"Bridge the Gap" (Albuquerque, NM)
December 3	YLD Board Meeting (Albuquerque, NM)



Public Information Brochures

Members can now order Public Information Brochures from the State Bar.
Label or stamp with your name or law firm to increase visibility or hand to clients

Topics include:

- Adopting a Child
- Divorce and Separation in NM
- How to Save on Attorney's Fees
- Landlord/Tenant Relations
- Rights of Children in Juvenile Court
- Social Security and SSI
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Call (505) 797-6039 to request an order form or order online at www.nmbar.org

Orders must be in quantities of 50 and can be mixed or matched in quantities of 10
\$10 per 50 brochures
\$2.50 for Shipping and Handling

Summary of ABA/YLD Regional Conference and Ski-Le

By Briana Zamora

The Denver Young Lawyers Division Hosted the ABA/YLD Regional Conference in Copper Mountain, Colorado. The conference lasted three days. The CLE programs were of great interest to young lawyers, including topics such as "Professionalism," "The Fine Points of Conducting Depositions" and "Rainmaking." In addition, we were also able to exchange information and ideas about our respective organizations. The Denver Young Lawyers Division hosts an annual Winter Festival where donated clothing, toys and other gifts are given to Denver foster children. The Denver Young Lawyers started the program by solely donating gifts and later expanded the project to include a party and festival for the children. At some point, this may be a program that the New Mexico Young Lawyer's Division may consider adopting.

Dr. Winfried F. Schmitz attended as a representative from the Association Internationale Des Jeunes Avocats ("AIJA"), otherwise known as the International Association of Young Lawyers. The AIJA is an international association of lawyers' forty-five years old and younger. The AIJA has members from seventeen jurisdictions all over the world. AIJA's two official languages are French and English. The AIJA will hold its annual meeting in Mexico City, Mexico starting on August 23, 2005. If you are interested in becoming a member or need more information visit the AIJA web site at www.aija.org or e-mail office@aija.org.

YLD BOARD MEETING

Attend the next Board Meeting and see what the Division is doing.

Saturday, May 14, 2005

8:00 a.m. - noon

State Bar Center

Albuquerque

