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Land Loss Project Based Here

by T. Monroe

The North Carolina Association of Black Lawyers Land Loss Prevention Project is a non-profit organization founded in Jan. 1982 as a task force to help black land owners. The reason for this attention was the increasing trend in North Carolina that black land owners were losing their land tremendously. The project was officially opened in Jan. 1983. What is so special about this project? It is based right here at NCCU School of Law.

"In North Carolina where minority landownership is at least the third highest in the country, minority owned lands have declined from one million acres in 1950 to one half million acres in 1978. In the years between 1969-1974, minorities in North Carolina have lost 32 percent of their land." (The LLPP Handout)

There are several components to the Project. The Legal component involves the lawyer referral service which is made up of volunteer attorneys who will litigate the cases either at a reduced rate or free of charge. The clients must be within a limited income bracket which is determined by Legal Services guidelines.

The Law School Course and Clinic component involves a course structure which teaches about the Land Loss problem, trains students to investigate the cases and do research relative to the cases. This course is offered during the regular semesters.

The Community Education component involves going out into the com-

munity and educating persons in the community about the problem and making them aware that there is assistance available. The major contact occurs through churches.

The Legislative component involves members of the Board of Directors who are instrumental in the lobbying of different bills which will support and help the Land Loss process.

The Attorney Trainee Program concerns the training of the volunteer attorneys which make up the Legal panel.

Ms. Brenda McGhee is the Director and Managing Attorney of the Land Loss Prevention Project here at Central. She is responsible for screening each case for merit, teaching the course and clinic, other administrative duties and assigning each case to an attorney on the panel. Each attorney must be willing to accept the case and each client must be willing to accept the selected attorney before the case can proceed.

Overall, the Land Loss Program is an important instrument to those persons (blacks and other minorities) who have experienced the loss of their land either through foreclosures, tax liens, inheritance, partition, zoning or scams.

Because it is strictly a volunteer program, help is constantly welcomed. For those of you interested in Property law, you may want to consider taking the course and clinic. Of course, you do not have to be a Property fan to get

Adminis. Profile

by T. Monroe

For those of you who have visited the Dean's office, (and everyone has at one point), you may have encountered a pleasant smile and cheerful "hello". This greeting is announced by Mrs. Iris Cilchrist, Secretary to the Dean. For those of you who may have gone on to carry on further conversation with "Mrs. G" as she is affectionately called by friends, you quickly come to realize the sincerity and cheerfulness of this warm person.

Mrs. Gilchrist has been Secretary to the Dean since 1975, having served three Deans; DeJarmon, Groves and Daye. "Mrs. G" is a very pleasant person whom is always, always cheerful and willing to offer good advice. She either tells you that the Dean is in or out or busy. Very simple. Her other duties include the usual secretarial matters along with preparing reports, orders, student contracts, intercepting phone calls, typing letters, memos, copying and a million other things.

In her spare time, Mrs. Gilchrist says she likes to read, listen to music and shop. She is married and has three children. She says she enjoys her job very much and especially enjoys her co-workers. Though she has her favorites, she basically likes everyone. She says she is very impressed with the students and feels that they are hard working, dedicated students.

"Mrs. G" says she has enjoyed working with Dean Daye tremendously, (and she is not just saying that) and believes that whatever changes are made within that office will work out

See Land, p. 4

See Mrs. G, p.2

Moot Court Team Competes

by Pamela Thorpe

The Regional Appellate Advocacy Competition was held March 21-23, 1985 at Campbell University in Buies Creek, N.C. Moot Court Board members who competed were: Brenda Baldwin, Todd Burke, Jimmy Green, Lisa Harper, Travenia Harrison, Grady Jessup, Genevieve Sims, and Reuben Young. These members practiced hard and long and were divided into two teams for competition.

Professor T.M. Ringer, advisor to the Moot Court Board, coached these teams and senior Moot Court Board members also assisted the teams in preparing for the competition. These senior Board members were; Janet Brown, Angela Evans, Ann Moebes, Teresa Smallwood, Al Stewart, David Williams, and Ron Wright.

The competition was tough and the NCCU School of Law Moot Court Board competing members were defeated after double elimination in the second round of the competition. The team gave excellent presentations and the scores were pretty close but the winning team was William and Mary. Many thanks to the Moot Court Team for representing North Carolina Central.

Mrs. G

smoothly because she is used to adjustment.

Mrs. Gilchrist is a friend to many as well as a confidant. She is always willing to help despite her busy day. As students, we are not certain of the changes which lie ahead for the Law School, but as long as we have persons like Mrs. Gilchrist, we can be assured that the transition will be minimized by her cheerful and supportive attitude for all of us here at NCCU. From those of us whom you are special to, thanks "Mrs. G" for being you.

B.L.S.A. News

by T. Monroe

On March 6-10 the Black Law Students Association held its 1985 Regional Conference in Louisville, Kentucky. The theme for this year's conference was "Why We Can't Wait". The delegates attending the conference from the LeMarquis DeJarmon-Daniel Sampson Chapter here at NCCU were; 3L Steven Price, 2L Toni Monroe and 1L Sega Howell.

The conference was hosted by the University of Louisville BLSA Chapter and all guests stayed at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. The conference hosted several workshops and forums including a forum on "Black Views From the Bench", featuring Judge Robert Benham from the Georgia Court of Appeals; Federal District Judge Alcee Hastings from the Southern District of Florida; and Judge Charles Anderson from the Jefferson District Court, Louisville, Ky. Also featured was Amelia House, Exiled South African poet, who conducted a workshop on "South Africa".

The semi-final and final rounds of the Frederick Douglass Moot Court competition was also held featuring the University of Georgia and UNC-Chapel Hill. Both teams argued exceptionally well but the University of Georgia was held to have the winning argument.

A special attraction for those delegates from NCCU featured a workshop on "Land Retention" hosted by Ms. Angela Bryant of the North Carolina Land Loss Prevention Program, headed here at Central.

The conference was concluded on Sat., March 9 with an Awards Banquet and Dance. The Banquet featured Dr. Mary Francis Berry of the United States Commission of Civil Rights, as speaker.

BLSA held elections for its 1985-86 officers on Monday, April 1. The results are as follows: Chairperson, Toni Monroe; Vice-Chairperson, Alan Bedford; Secretary, Sandra Hairston; Treasurer, Constance Walker; Corresponding Secretary, Sega Howell.

LAMP Needs Volunteers

by Reuben Young

Legal Assistance for Mothers in Prison (LAMP) is a non-profit corporation whose purpose is to meet the unique needs of indigent women prisoners with children by recommending to the courts alternatives to incarceration, by defending those inmates in custody proceedings, and maintaining visitation rights during incarceration.

Single mothers face an automatic, unanticipated punishment from the time they are arrested, whether or not they are guilty of any crime. In a majority of cases, when a mother is arrested, she is immediately separated from her children and placed in jail without being given an opportunity to place her children in someone's care or to explain to them what will happen to them. If convicted, she may be taken to prison without getting to even see them.

The problem at present is most serious with pregnant women. In 1982, there were sixty such women who were forced to make decisions about their new babies' futures without legal counsel as to their rights and recourses. The importance of maintaining the mother-child bond cannot be underestimated. It affects the child's sense of self worth, security, ability to learn and to function as a responsible citizen.

A network of volunteer attorneys is being developed through the help of the North Carolina Association of Women Attorneys, the Young Lawyers Division, and the local Bar Associations. It is anticipated that the program will have approximately 200 attorneys statewide to assist these mothers. A list of community resource groups is being compiled for support and referrals by the attorneys. In addition to services provided by the attorneys, the program is in need of assistance from volunteer students to interview and assist these mothers. Any student interested in assisting this program should contact 3L Reuben Young immediately or stop by the office located in downtown Durham.

Attention

Students

by Cornelius Harrison

First of all I would like to thank my supporters for having the confidence in feeling that I was the best candidate for the office of Vice-President. I would also like to thank my past opponents for running clean and positive campaigns.

I personally view my victory as a success of my class. The class of '87 went into the elections with two out of a possible ten S.B.A. executive votes. This year we tried to double our representation by running for the offices of Vice-President and Treasurer. Constance Walker was a strong candidate, however, her campaign was defeated. Ultimately we will have three votes on the executive board for next year.

I feel the S.B.A. is the most important student organization in the law school. It touches and concerns the everyday affairs of the law students. The budget to be administered affects the quality of preparation and performance of those students participating in Trial Advocacy, Moot Court, Law Journal and the other school organizations. There will be some difficult decisions to be made and I feel confident that with my input, they will be made in the very best interest of all the students.

I look forward to working with President-elect Brenda Baldwin, as well as the other elected S.B.A. officials. I think Brenda has gained tremendous experience as Vice-President this year and that she is more than capable of discharging the duties of her new office.

Again, thanks to all my supporters. I will be there when you need me.

In light of having served as SBA President for the 1984-85 school term, Michael Jones has prepared the following closing remarks:

Dear Fellow Students:

I am taking this opportunity to thank each of you for allowing me to serve as SBA President for the 1984-85 academic year. As I mentioned at the Law Day Awards Program, the year has not been an easy one due to many problems. Most of the problems stemmed from irregular difficulties such as, all major courses being grouped in the first semester, the untimely allocation of funds to the SBA by the University, ABA inspection, administrative resignations, re-elections and others. These problems required us to sit back and to await the outcome. The waiting periods were required to avoid the danger of acting prematurely on other matters and this naturally put all of us behind. However, through it all, I have really enjoyed myself serving as SBA President.

Presently my mind must focus on the new SBA officers and the support they will need from students, faculty and alumni. As a student, I find that we are too oriented toward reactionary measures instead of acting the first instance. Many of you will sit back and let things happen and then criticize what another has done or has not done. Where were you when the work was being done? The answer: In the background. In fact, you were so far in the background that no one could see or hear you. What is needed is for those persons in the background to get up off their seats and good intentions and to stand with the SBA.

I maintain that this crisis mentality and apathetic attitude must become a thing of the past or we will wake up one morning to find the stated mission of our institution greatly altered. We will also experience broken hopes and many scattered dreams.

The students must be willing to act even if the only result will be a "red badge of courage." There are policies that you will not agree with, whether they are the school's or the SBA's, but until you get involved they will remain the same. To make myself perfectly

clear, I am not advocating irrational or radical actions, but only diplomatic, peaceful and well considered steps.

During the year I often thought of a statement which says "An important day in a man's life is when he is born, but the most important day is when he realizes why he was born." I want to thank each of you for your assistance and for bringing me closer to realizing that the reason I was born is to serve humanity in whatever manner I can and therefore, I conclude this year believing and knowing that "God is not through with me yet."

Again, thank you. Sincerely,
Michael Eric Jones

Editorial

The school year is slowly coming to an end and students are beginning to get paranoid about exams. However, there are a group of students that very soon look forward to success and the grace of God. These are the third year students.

During the usual school day we all pass each other rushing here and rushing there, but it is a distant thought to realize that this group of students can only envision the very near approaching moment when they will receive that letter saying "YOU PASSED." Even though that is everyone's ultimate concern, we have a bit more time to ponder and squander this approaching moment.

This is my final tribute to the 3L's. Your success can only reflect and help determine ours, so we, (1L's & 2L's), sincerely bid you farewell and wish you only good things and great success! Your future is our future, (especially if you hire us later), your triumphs are our triumphs and your downfalls are your downfalls. So Happy Graduation third year students, go face the world with a big grin (so they won't know what you are up to), a professional attitude and that Bar Certification!

William Mours
Editor-in-Chief

Vita Program Ending

Saturday, April 13 will be the last day to get assistance with your 1984 income tax returns here at the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program. Those persons who have not filed their returns yet, you only have a few more days. The deadline is April 15, unless you get an extension!!

Class Notes

2L

The officers for the second year class 1985-86 are as follows: President-James Faison, Vice-President- Sandra Hairston, Treasurer-Charlene Stovall, Secretary-Gwen Gardner, Parliamentarian-Steve Whitted, SBA Representatives-Francisco Duarte and Grazell Howard.

3L

The officers for the third year class, 1985-86 are as follows: President-Wanda Garrett, Vice-President-Nancy White, Treasurer-Judith Dobbin, Secretary-Debra McNeill, SBA Reps.-Patsy McIntyre and Veda Shamsid-Deen.

Legal Fraternities

Delta Theta Phi

by T. Monroe

Delta Theta Phi Law Fraternity conducted elections of its 1985-86 officers. They are as follows: Dean-Gail Edwards, Vice-Dean-Debra McNeil, Clerk of the Rolls-Toni Monroe, Clerk of Exchequer-Patsy McIntyre, Master of the Ritual-Darlene Moore, Bailiff-Judith Dobbin, and Tribune-Donze Wilkins.

Phi Delta Phi

Phi Delta Phi Law Fraternity would like to announce the induction of the following new members: 2L's- Sam Briegel, Elroger Harris, Albert Reddick, Laurinda Hicks, 1L's- Joseph Anthony, Holly Brown, Steve Foskett, Jeff Haas, Cornelius Harrison, David Hasty, Monette Nixon, Josh Tharrington, Mark Perry, Faison Winborne, Bill Wolak, and Stephen Whitted.

The officers for the 1985-86 school year are: Magister-Sue McFadden, Vice-Magister-Greg Hughes, Exchequer-Jane Carter, Clerk-Holly Brown, and Historian-Michael Duane.

Phi Delta Phi Law Fraternity presented an award to Dean Charles Daye for his "Outstanding Service to the Law School 1984-85".

S.B.A. Reports

by T. Monroe

The official election results of the Student Bar Association are as follows: President-Brenda Baldwin; Vice-President-Cornelius Harrison; Treasurer-Jimmy Green; Secretary-Sue McFadden.

The Professor of the Year Award goes to Prof. T.M. Ringer. The Student of the Year Award goes to 3L Turner Stephenson.

Phi Alpha Delta

PAD will sponsor the 1st Annual PAD Picnic on Saturday, April 13, 1985. This event is pot luck, which means "bring your own food." The picnic will start at 12:00 p.m. and end at 6:00 p.m. Everyone is invited.

The P.A.D. Book Drive was a successful endeavor. We would like to thank all contributors for their support. The law books were delivered to Central Prison in Raleigh.

The P.A.D elections held on March 25, 1985 were as follows: Justice-Nathan Curry, Vice-Justice-Barbara Carney, Treasurer-Denise Clark, Marshall-Gwen Gardner.

Cassandra Stroud was voted Outstanding PAD Member, Prof. Daniel G. Sampson was voted Outstanding Faculty Member and Outstanding PAD Alumnus.

SBA, cont.

On March 18, 1985, SBA President, Michael Jones made the following proclamations: I hereby proclaim April 19, 1985 as "Charles E. Daye" Appreciation Day for his service to the students and the Student Bar Association.

On March 26, 1985, members of the administration, library and Land Loss Clinic were presented long stem carnations, cake and punch in recognition of "Staff Appreciation Day". The presentation was held in the Law School lobby at 3:30 p.m. Several students attended this event. SBA President Michael Jones proclaimed this day in honor of their continued, unselfish and invaluable services to the students here at NCCU.

30 more days
til Graduation!



Land

involved. Land is an issue most of us can relate to because our parents or relatives are landowners. Get the facts now so that you can educate your relatives about their land rights and in the event something does happen, you will know where to send them. For additional information, contact the Land Loss Prevention Project on second floor.