

ALABAMA LAW FOUNDATION

Spring - 2010

BEHIND THE SCENES

Charles Carr enjoys watching people try to figure out the meaning of his car's license plate: KDZCHZ. He states that sometimes people puzzle over it as long as twenty minutes before they give

up. Carr says they all give up, and he is glad, because then he uses the explanation as an opportunity to "publicly proclaim across the state that Kids' Chance Scholarship Fund is a great organization."

Carr, a leader in initiating Kids' Chance, remembers that individuals and organizations worked together to create the scholarship fund in 1992. Attorneys Jay York in Mobile, Bill Lundy in Georgia and Steve Ford in Tuscaloosa helped Kids' Chance get started. Law firms Balch and Bingham, Burr and Forman, Reese and Putnam, and Cooper Mitch contributed seed money for the first scholarships. In 1993, Wayne Wolfe and Bob Lee became strong



Duren in yellow shirt: Alabama Law Foundation Executive Director Tracy Daniel accepts a check on behalf of Kids' Chance Scholarship Fund from Alabama Self-Insurers Association President Richard Duren.



Tracy Daniel, Alabama Law Foundation executive director, accepts a check for Kids' Chance from John Stumpf, president of the Workers' Compensation Association of West Alabama.

Kids' Chance was conceived by the Workers' Compensation Section of the Alabama State Bar in 1992, and is administered by the Alabama Law Foundation.

stands as the largest single contribution to date. Randal Ward serves on the ASIA Board of Directors and is a member of the Kids' Chance Scholarship Committee. He says he wants to be a part of the scholarship committee "as long as they will have me" because the applicants' stories are "so inspiring and capable of melting hearts." Ward explains that he wants to help each applicant—those who make high grades and those who make Cs—because all the students are working hard to achieve their career goals in the face of adversity.

Looking at the applicants' notes and backgrounds, and deciding on the amount of scholarship each student will receive, Ward says he always wishes there was more money available. "The students' stories inspire me

supporters. HealthSouth made generous gifts from the beginning and continues its support. The Alabama Self-Insurers Association, ASIA, began their support the first year with a \$1,000 gift; this year, ASIA's \$16,500 contribution

Kids' Chance Loses a True Friend

Kids' Chance Scholarship Fund lost a true friend with the passing of Robert Wyeth Lee on August 16, 2009. Bob Lee was an established and well-respected lawyer. He received the Alabama State Bar Award of Merit, an AV rating from Martindale-Hubbell, and was featured in "The Best Lawyers in America." One of Lee's main concentrations in his practice was Workers' Compensation. He served as Chairman of the Legislative Committee Workmans' Compensation Section of the Alabama State Bar, and co-authored Alabama Workers' Compensation Law and Handbook. Through his work with Workers' Compensation, Bob Lee saw the need for a scholarship program to assist children of disabled workers to get training and education beyond high school. In 1992, he was one of a group of lawyers and legal firms who provided seed money to start Kids' Chance Scholarship Fund. Lee was a leader in founding Kids' Chance, and his commitment to the program continues with his family's request that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to Kids' Chance Scholarship Fund through the Alabama State Bar.

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For school year
2009-2010,
the Alabama Law
Foundation proudly
announces that 18
Alabama students
received Kids' Chance
scholarships.

William Bamberg, Jr., Selma
Justin Boyles, Russellville
Keslie Boyles, Russellville
Christopher Cupit, Demopolis
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Hayley Fondren, Northport
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The third annual "Serving for Scholarships" tennis tournament to benefit Kids' Chance Scholarships was held Friday, April 17, 2009 at Hoover Country Club in Hoover, Alabama. Daniel Peacock and radio personality Bill "Bubba" Bussey had a great time and so did everyone else. This year's tournament will be held April 16, 2010.

Winners of the "Serving for Scholarships" tennis tournament had a good time for a good cause—the Kids' Chance Scholarship Fund.

PLEASE GIVE 334.269.1515 | www.alfinc.org



Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

I want to make a donation to Kids' Chance.

I want to make a donation to the Alabama Law Foundation Fund.

I want to make a donation to the Justice Janie L. Shores Scholarship.

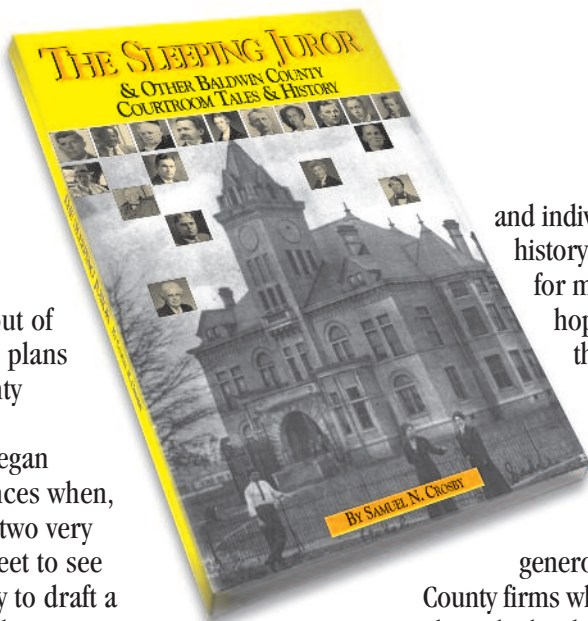
In honor/memory of: _____

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Check enclosed _____

Please bill my credit card \$ _____ Visa/MasterCard/Amex # _____ Exp. _____

Signature _____



The Sleeping Juror, a collection of humorous stories written by Sam Crosby about his experiences as a lawyer, has sold out of a second printing and there are no plans for a third. Crosby, a Baldwin County lawyer and previous Alabama Law Foundation director, explains he began writing down his amusing experiences when, in the first year of his law career, “two very drunk men wandered in off the street to see me.” One of the men asked Crosby to draft a will for the other man, explaining that “He wanna make a will and leave ever’tin’ to me.” Crosby continued to write and collect stories during his first twenty-four years as a lawyer in Baldwin County. In 2002, the Alabama Law Foundation published the stories in the book, *The Sleeping Juror*.

According to Crosby, “There were two purposes I hoped to accomplish with *The Sleeping Juror*. The first was to raise funds through the Alabama Law Foundation to support Kids’ Chance Scholarships and funding for indigent legal services.” The Alabama Law Foundation received all proceeds from the sale of the book totaling over \$31,000. “The second,” Crosby continues, “was to encourage lawyers and judges throughout the state, and country, to preserve their own funny court stories and local court history.” Crosby was glad to learn that Bill Hairston of Birmingham, a past Alabama State Bar president, persuaded the Birmingham Bar Association to film senior lawyers telling local funny court stories. Also, during Crosby’s tenure as president, the Alabama State Bar produced a DVD of bar leaders throughout Alabama telling funny court stories, discussing leadership principles and giving advice to new lawyers. A copy of the DVD is available through Brad Carr (brad.carr@alabar.org or 334/261-6310). Crosby hopes that if lawyers write down their experiences that the stories and humor will not be lost. He also notes that, through a variety of circumstances, historical records can be lost,

ALABAMA LAW FOUNDATION RESTS THE CASE ON THE SLEEPING JUROR

and individuals recording their own history and research can compensate for missing records. Crosby added, “I hope some of the young lawyers in the state will follow Bill Hairston’s lead and start collecting funny court stories in their circuit for preservation and publication.” Today, Sam Crosby acknowledges the generosity of the following Baldwin County firms who contributed to the cost of making the book available to the public:

- Armbrecht, Jackson, L.L.P.
- Blackburn and Conner, P.C.
- Carr, Allison, Pugh, Howard, Oliver & Sisson, P.C.
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- Stone, Granade & Crosby, P.C.
- The Hatchett Foundation
- Wilkins, Bankester, Biles & Wynne, P.A.
- Wills & Simon

Sam Crosby wants to again thank Alabama writer Winston Groom for his kind and helpful words on the back cover, and Morris Dees for sharing his time and talent in writing the forward. Sam Crosby is not distressed about the end of the run of *The Sleeping Juror*. He is happy about the amount of money it raised for Kids’ Chance Scholarship Fund and legal help for Alabama’s citizens. He is heartened by new projects recording lawyers’ experiences, and he hopes in “ten or fifteen years some young Baldwin County court lawyer will write a sequel.” Crosby started the book with one of his favorite quotes, “do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with your God.” He is content to see the project end.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to work to raise more money for scholarships,” he said.

A Kids’ Chance graduate walking across the stage to receive a diploma deserves that moment of attention at center stage. Charles Carr and Randal Ward are two of the many people who work behind the scenes to help create that moment by raising money for Kids’ Chance scholarships, working to expand public knowledge about the program, and making decisions about the amounts the students receive. Ward describes Kids’ Chance as a “fantastic organization” and all his time and energy invested in Kids’ Chance as “a labor of love.” Charles Carr says he “loves what Kids’ Chance stands for and never tires of hearing the students’ stories.” Carr calls working for Kids’ Chance a “great opportunity for all parties to come together in a joint cause to help others,” and makes the important point that, “without Kids’ Chance, many of these students might not be able to pursue higher education.” In the first year of Kids’ Chance, three scholarships were awarded. The number continues to increase every year because of the many organizations and people, like Charles Carr and Randal Ward who work for Kids’ Chance behind the scenes.

Kids’ Chance scholarships are funded solely by contributions from corporations, organizations and individuals.

Kids’ Chance Scholarship Fund provides college tuition or technical training for students whose parent or parents have been permanently disabled or killed on the job.



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The ALABAMA LAW FOUNDATION

Spring

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Kids' Chance Loses a Friend: Honoring Bob Lee's Commitment

Kids' Chance Recipients for 2009-2010 School Year

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charitable tax-exempt organization
affiliated with the Alabama State
Bar, strives to make access to civil
justice and education to all
Alabama citizens a reality.

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