

THE MAYNARD MESSENGER

MCG CLIENT CONNECTION: ANYTHING BUT STANDARD

LeRoy Lambert, President of Charles Taylor P&I Management, shares his thoughts and experiences on the industry and his career. The Standard Club is a mutual insurance association, owned by its shipowner members and controlled by a board of directors drawn from the membership.

The Standard



Q: Describe in your own words the mission/purpose of your company.

A: Charles Taylor P&I Management (Americas), Inc. acts on behalf of the managers of The Standard Club Europe Ltd and The Standard Club Asia Ltd. The Standard Club is owned by its shipowner members and is an indemnity insurer of the liabilities of shipowners and operators to third-parties. The Standard Club is one of 13 such “clubs” in the international group of protection and indemnity (“P&I”) clubs. These thirteen clubs insure some 90% of the world’s blue water oceangoing fleets. The “P&I” liabilities covered typically include injury to persons, damage to cargo, damage to other ships, damage to fixed objects, pollution, wreck removal, and miscellaneous other liabilities.

The New York office is responsible for insureds (“members”) located in the US and Canada. We also assist members handled by other offices (London, Piraeus, Singapore, Hong Kong, and Rio di Janeiro) when their ships have problems in the US.

Q: How did you arrive at your position/profession?

A: I grew up in Louisiana and earned my J.D. at Tulane. At Tulane, I

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A Fond Farewell to Jarry Taylor



We sat down with Jarry to take a look back at his career with Maynard Cooper.

1. What is your fondest memory at Maynard Cooper?

There were lots of fond memories, particularly in the early days of the firm. If I had to pick one, it would be in the late fall of 1988 when I was called in the conference room in front of all of the partners and was asked by Tony Miller if I wanted to join them as a partner myself. I was sitting there looking at all of the people who, to me, were smarter and more accomplished than I would ever be, and they were asking me to be their partner. It was a great moment. Tony later told me that he could barely get the words out of his mouth before I jumped at the chance to say ‘yes!’

2. What was your most memorable case? Why?

There were two. One was the Solution Litigation – where we represented McWane and a few other companies in Anniston. It lasted nine years and it involved trying to dig

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The deadline for submitting information for the next issue of The Maynard Messenger is Monday, April 6.

Please submit content to Paige Price at pprice@maynardcooper.com.

FIRM ANNIVERSARIES

As we kick off 2015, we celebrate and thank the following employees for their years of dedication and service!

10 years: Harrison Bishop, Leslie Cagle, Sheila Carden, Jessica Grover, Sandra Hudson, Karen Kirkpatrick, Kem Marks- Bryant, Mel McElroy, Chris Mitchell, Joel Porter, Marcia Pratt, Grace Robinson, Will Smith, Kimberly Wesson and Chris Williams

20 years: Scott Abney, Louis Coppedge, Gail Davis, Peter Fruin, Gail Perry and Rob Sexton

30 years: Diane Broom, Lee Cooper, Kirby Sevier and Tommy Wells

A Fond Farewell (cont.)

up facts about the industry and how it operated over 60 years ago, specifically how they disposed of waste. So it was really hard and challenging factually, to figure out those details from so long ago. But it also had some unique legal issues. That was fun to have interesting facts involved – and it was the only case I’ve had in my career that went all the way up to the Supreme Court. We won the case at the district court level and the 11th circuit, but the other side kept taking it up higher. We ended up with a summary judgment on that case.

The second and more recent case was another environmental case where we were representing a regular landfill, not a hazardous waste landfill. This particular landfill had hauling roads that led to the site and those roads would get very dusty during certain times of the year. Because of the dust, the roads would have to be rinsed off by water tank trucks. This certain location did not have a public water line so the trucks would use big pumps to pull out water from a nearby creek, fill the tanks and clean off the roads. It just so happen that an investigator for a plaintiff lawyer lived in the area and saw these tanker trucks sitting by the side of the creek with a hose going into the water. Like any normal person, his first reaction was that these trucks were dumping something into the creek! But the trucks were actually taking water! So he reported his discovery to his boss, an investigation occurred and a big lawsuit followed for our client. It ended up taking us over a year to finally convince them that we weren’t doing anything wrong and in the meantime, the client had to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars in legal fees, discovery, depositions, and expert testimonies and at the end of the day they just gave up because they couldn’t prove anything.

3. What are you looking forward to most about retirement?

Not filling out time sheets! But also, I’m looking forward to having more time for travel. With both of our sons married and living in California, we will spend more time out there visiting.

5. Any hobbies you plan to take on or improve upon?

I’m hoping to play more golf, maybe take up a musical instrument and, in an effort to find a new common ground with my wife Janet during retirement, I plan to join her in several of her hobbies. She’s an avid tennis player and a master gardener, so I’ll be spending time with her while doing both of those things.

5. What piece of advice has stuck with you through the years? Who gave you that advice?

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Anything but Standard (cont.)



Pictured: LeRoy Lambert and Family

was introduced to maritime law and – more or less – knew that was what I wanted to do, despite being a landlubber. The law was interesting, had a rich history, and was full of “characters” and “you can’t make this up” incidents. I clerked for a year in New Orleans, and accepted an offer from a firm in New York, Healy & Baillie, in 1984. One year led to another, and now 30 years have gone by. In 2009, after 25 years of private practice, I “joined the club” and became head of the New York office.

Q: What’s the biggest project going on right now with your business?

A: The Standard Club and its managers, Charles Taylor, have formed a Lloyd’s syndicate, Syndicate 1884, to underwrite marine and energy risks outside the risks covered by our traditional protection and indemnity cover. All going well, we expect the syndicate will be open for business on 1 April 2015. In time, offices in the US will handle the claims arising from business written by the syndicate.

Q: What do you see as the largest challenge facing your industry?

A: Keeping the cost of claims down. This includes the amount paid for claims as well as the cost of contesting those claims. Shipowners, experts, and lawyers must all pull together in this regard. With respect to service providers, it is also important that they build for the future and that the industry support them as they do.

Q: What’s your favorite part about your job?

A: The people I deal with and the facts of the cases.

Q: Where do you feel your business has the most potential for growth?

A: The Lloyd’s syndicate, discussed above.

Q: Describe who or what has had the most influence on your career.

A: As to what, I suppose stumbling into maritime law at

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MCG in the Community

Maynard Cooper Participate in Bocce Ball Tournament

Maggie Johnson Cornelius, Andrew Nix, Josh Baker and Josh Bennett participated in the Birmingham Bar Foundation’s 6th Annual Bocce Ball Tournament on October 9. Proceeds raised by the tournament benefited the Legal Aid Society of Birmingham and the Birmingham Volunteer Lawyers Program.



Tinsel Trail – Huntsville

The Huntsville office participated in the 2014 Tinsel Trail. This month-long festival of trees is organized by Downtown Huntsville, Inc., an organization committed to creating a vibrant, diverse and economically sustainable downtown region. Many local companies and organizations participate in the tree decorating, while local families and visitors enjoy the trees on view in Big Spring Park.



Women’s Forum Service Project

During their December 2 meeting, MCG’s Women’s Forum partnered with the Court Appointed Special Advocate for Children (CASA) to host a gift drive benefitting several local children who are in the Court Appointed Guardian Program. The Women’s Forum exceeded the wish list of those children and was able to provide a very exciting Christmas morning!



MCG Attorneys Attend Annual Shuttlesworth Dinner

Several MCG attorneys attended the 12th annual Fred L. Shuttlesworth Human Rights Awards Dinner on November 14. The annual dinner recognizes honored

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MCG in the Community

individuals for their service to civil and human rights causes around the world and benefits the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute.



Kirby Sevier inducted into BSC Sports Hall of Fame

Birmingham-Southern College held its 34th annual induction dinner for its all-time Sports Hall of Fame. The Hall of Fame inducted our own Kirby Sevier for his accomplishments on both the basketball court and the baseball diamond. Sevier was a three-year letterman for the men's basketball team from 1966-1968, and was also a member of the 1967 baseball team.



Jaime Betbeze featured in Mobile's Lagniappe Magazine

Maynard Cooper's own Jaime Betbeze was featured on the cover of Mobile's Lagniappe Magazine for his leadership efforts to restore Barton Academy, the state's first public school and a national historic landmark. Jaime serves as the President of the Barton Academy Foundation, a non-profit organization geared toward funding the complete restoration of Barton Academy.



Reilly Ward and Shannon Oldenburg to join 2015 "Leadership Mobile" Class

Reilly and Shannon were named to the 2015 class of Leadership Mobile. The mission of Leadership Mobile is to seek, train and empower leaders who are committed to supporting and leading community growth and progress through networking and collaborative problem solving.

PRACTICE CONNECTION

LAUREN DEMOSS NAMED ONE OF BIRMINGHAM BUSINESS JOURNAL'S TOP 40 UNDER 40

After a thorough selection process, Lauren has been named on the BBJ's Top 40 Under 40 list for 2015. She was honored, along with the other 39 recipients, at a reception on February 19 at Iron City.

JANINE MCKINNON MCADORY INVITED TO NATIONAL BLACK LAWYERS TOP 100

Janine McAdory recently joined the invitation-only professional honorary organization that recognizes the top 100 black lawyers in each state and consists of America's top attorneys who represent individuals, families and businesses in the American legal system.

STARR DRUM AND JAY LESTER ELECTED TO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE BIRMINGHAM BAR ASSOCIATION'S YOUNG LAWYERS SECTION

JENNY MCCAIN SELECTED FOR 2015 INAUGURAL PRESIDENTIAL LEADERSHIP SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Jenny McCain was selected for the 2015 inaugural class of the Presidential Leadership Scholars Program. The six-month program kicked off in February, and will take place at various Presidential Centers throughout the country. Participants will hear from former presidents, key administration officials, and leading academics to learn and put into practice varying approaches to leadership, develop a network of peers, and exchange ideas with mentors and others who can help them make an impact in their communities.

BARRY STAPLES' ARTICLE PUBLISHED IN THE ALABAMA MUNICIPAL JOURNAL

Barry's article "Continuing Disclosure: Is Your Municipality Compliant?" was published in the January 2015 issue of the Alabama Municipal Journal. The article discussed the recent developments and policies related to the Municipalities Continuing Disclosure Cooperation Initiative (MCDC). Barry Staples and Jodie Smith hosted Disclosure Training Lunch & Learns in February to cover similar material.

WARREN LIGHTFOOT ELECTED AS CHAIR FOR L&E SECTION OF ABA

During the annual Alabama Bar Association's annual meeting,

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Practice Connection (cont.)

Warren Lightfoot was elected to serve as the Chairman of the Labor & Employment Law Section of the ABA.

JOHN NEIMAN ELECTED INTO AMERICAN LAW INSTITUTE

John Neiman was recently elected to membership in the American Law Institute. The membership selection process reviews professional excellence, experience, achievements, and professional recognition amongst peers. The ALI is the leading independent organization in the United States producing scholarly work to clarify, modernize, and otherwise improve the law.

CHRIS HARMON AND MATT STILES FEATURED AT SOUTHEASTERN BUSINESS LAW INSTITUTE

The November 6 Business Law Institute featured Maynard Cooper’s Chris Harmon as the Master of Ceremonies, while Matt Stiles gave a presentation on the Affordable Care Act with Michael Patterson of Blue Cross Blue Shield. Following the meeting, attendees enjoyed a cocktail reception at the Westin co-hosted by Maynard Cooper.

A Fond Farewell (cont.)

Tony Miller told me fairly early in my career how the law profession takes up a lot of your time but make sure, no matter what, to put God and family first. Before clients, a brief that’s due, before your colleagues – to always keep those two things first and foremost. That advice really struck a chord with me as a young lawyer and I kept it with me throughout my career. While challenging sometimes, especially during the days of young kids, I feel like I’ve done a pretty good job with that over the years.

6. With over 30 years of experience, what advice would you give new associates?

Same advice I received from Tony Miller back in the day, but I’d also add that the most important thing about practicing law is building relationships. You can write a great brief or orally argue a case wonderfully, but unless you build great relationships both in the firm and with clients or potential clients you won’t be as successful as you could truly be. Understanding the client and their needs, spending time with the client inside and outside of the office – those things will help you develop the relationships needed to be a great lawyer.

7. What will you miss most about practicing law?

I will miss the intellectual challenge of the job and the law. I’ll also miss the people, relationships and the culture that I’ve been a part of for over 30 years.

CLIENT SUCCESS STORIES

Congratulations to the Tyson Farms Trial Team!

Tom Thagard and Josh Baker achieved a defense verdict from a Blount County jury on October 30, 2014. Tom and Josh were defending Tyson Farms and an individual defendant against claims of breach of contract and negligence relating to a chicken broiler farm, having previously convinced the Court to dismiss claims of fraud and wantonness. Congratulations to the trial team!

Congratulations to Mobile’s Waste Management Trial Team!

Jaime Betbeze and Trice Stabler, with the assistance of others in the Mobile office, secured this a jury verdict in favor of longtime client, Waste Management, in a commercial dispute filed against the Mobile Solid Waste Disposal Authority. WM, through a subsidiary, operates a landfill in Mobile under a Lease form the Authority. WM has been repeatedly denied requests for price increases and reimbursement of capital expenditures that it believed were allowed under the Lease Agreement. The damages also include the failure of the Authority to deliver all required waste streams for disposal, which bodes favorably on future operations. Congratulations on the trial victory!

Anything but Standard (cont.)

Tulane. As to who, some on my short list are still active! So, I’ll go with Nicholas J. Healy. Lawyer, professor, author, husband, father – a good man who never lost the twinkle in his eyes.

Q: What is your personal motto and why?

A: As my children will attest, I have many. Let’s go with the paraphrase from Luke 12:48, “To whom much is given, much is required.”

Q: Where is your favorite place to travel?

A: Mobile, of course!

Q: Favorite sports team?

A: Geaux Tigers! Geaux Saints!

UPCOMING EVENTS

The firm pizza parties got off to a great start in February. Mark your calendars for the upcoming pizza Fridays through the end of the year: **May 1, August 7 and October 30**

March 12: Life at a Law Firm

March 13: Women’s Health Care Leadership Forum

Beginning April 13: Minority Scholars LSAT Prep Course

April 16: Birmingham Reads

April 23: Spring Global Business Forum



Jaime Bebeze and Ben Segarra toured the Aker Shipyard in Philadelphia on October 23 as part of the Maritime Law Association (MLA) fall meeting.

First Year Associates visiting Royal Cup Coffee as part of the first year associate orientation organized by Lee Sheppard.



Melody Banks honored as Top HR Innovator by Birmingham Business Journal

Director of Human Resources, Melody Banks, was one of 11 Birmingham Professionals who was honored as Top HR Innovators at a luncheon on October 30.



MCG included on “Go-To Law Firm of Top Fortune 500” list by ALM

Maynard Cooper was recently chosen as a Go-To Law Firm for the Fortune Top 500. The inclusion is based on data gathered from Fortune 500 companies by searching public records such as Lexis Counsel Link.

Holiday fun was had by all!

Thanks to the planning of Melody Banks and Joslyn Smith, both the attorney and staff holiday parties were great successes! Staff enjoyed a private luncheon at Ocean where a few lucky winners went home with great raffle prizes. The attorneys enjoyed themselves at Bridgestreet Gallery & Loft for an evening reception catered by Shindigs.

