Quick facts on Andrew:
- J.D., U.S.C. School of Law
- L.L.M., New York University
- Pro Bono Volunteer of the Year, 2000-2001

Andrew W. Chandler  In this issue we feature Charleston attorney, Andrew Chandler. Andrew is an estate and tax planning specialist working at the firm of Evans, Carter, Kunes and Bennett, P.A—a small boutique that practices exclusively in tax law. The best part about his job is “being able to help folks” and he explained that even in his highly specialized area of law he has found ways to give back to his community. “When I started my job I was encouraged to volunteer and participate in the community by Heyward Carter – not to try to bring in clients exclusively but to also give to the community – this is some of the best advice I have been given.”

Cultivating his interests and growing a career in community service have been Andrew Chandler’s keys to success. “Participate in activities that interest you and that you feel will help the community and it will make you a better lawyer.” Being a volunteer and being active in the community are second nature for Andrew. “It was instilled in me as a child and I plan to set the example of service to community for my daughter and instill this value in her. Having a child totally changes your view on things. I’ve always felt it was important for me to be active in the community but now I want to share those ideals with my daughter Matilda. I think the best way to do this is to lead by example. She is only two and is already helping me in the garden.”

“Volunteer work is an important part of being a well-rounded person, it is important to be a good citizen by participating in your community and giving back.”

Andrew has been teaching a wills class for new homeowner’s with Habitat for Humanity for several years. Often, these homes are the only asset that the homeowner’s have. His work with Habitat extends back to his college days. Andrew has always made a point to get involved. At USC Andrew was very active in the community and was an officer on the Pro Bono Board as well as being voted the Pro Bono Volunteer of the Year in 2000-2001.

PRO BONO = “For the public good”
Andrew Chandler is one of the nicest guys you will ever meet. Upon speaking with him, one quickly learns that his commitment to community service has enriched his life in many ways – including being the avenue through which he met his wife, Eliza, a fellow Peace Corps volunteer.

While at U.S.C. School of Law . . .
“One of the most impressive things about USC is the pro bono program.” Andrew enjoyed the opportunity to work with Pam Robinson, USC Law Pro Bono Program Director, and found VITA – a volunteer tax assistance program – to be his most rewarding activity in law school. In addition, he worked with a USC social program assisting with Spanish translations needs in Columbia’s public services at a time when second language services were just beginning and the Spanish speaking population had a strong need.

Andrew grew up in Savannah, GA and was raised by civic-minded parents. His family moved to Charleston, SC when he was a teenager and he attended Bishop England High School. Andrew then attended Winthrop College, spent nearly 2 ½ years in the Peace Corps, and returned to school in 1997 to receive a Master’s in Political Science from Illinois State University in Centralia, IL. After working as a Zoning Administrator for the Town of Centralia, IL for a year, Andrew decided to return to law school in South Carolina.

Andrew’s love of gardening stems from time spent in his grandfather’s vegetable garden as a youth. His grandfather, John Anderson, had a vegetable garden that Andrew helped tend. Andrew did not find out until later in life that many of those vegetables were going to the soup kitchen every Friday. His grandfather was raised in an orphanage and having been blessed felt a duty to give back to his community and nurture those in need.

For more information on the Pro Bono Program and the For the Good of the Order newsletters go to www.law.sc.edu/pro_bono.