



☞ A Southern Gent ☜



Hay Compere associate Colin Newberry partnered with two college friends to create Moonshine Cologne, a scent inspired by their Southern roots and their grandfathers — true Southern gentlemen.

First things first, you *cannot* drink Moonshine Cologne. “I made sure that we included a warning that says the cologne is not potable and not something to be ingested,” laughs **Colin Newberry**, who launched the cologne a year ago with two friends, Charlie Holderness and Matt Moore, from his days at the University of Georgia.

Newberry, an associate of Hay Compere, P.L.L.C. in Austin, says he and his friends decided to create Moonshine Cologne (moonshineformen.com) after a year of brainstorming and research. The result is a scent that includes hints of peppercorn, patchouli, and even notes of tobacco. The cologne is hand-poured by the trio into a bottle resembling a flask, then wrapped in a burlap sack and tucked into a wooden box. The process is time consuming, but Newberry welcomes the opportunity to stay connected with his friends.

While Newberry has returned to his hometown from practicing in Dallas, Holderness lives in North Carolina and Moore in Tennessee. “We do it all in my friend’s basement in Greensboro, N.C., but it’s fun because it gives us a way to come back together and stay friends,” he says. “This is the tie that binds the three of us together.”

The time spent with each other is just as important to Newberry as any success the cologne has had. “When we made the commitment to do this, we told ourselves that if nothing more comes from this than a good story, then we are going to be successful,” he says. “We couldn’t fail if that was our goal.”

Searching for an alternative to body sprays geared toward teens and colognes endorsed by celebrities, Newberry and his friends wanted something more personal and something that they could imagine wearing themselves. For the group, the idea of personal scents evoked memories of their Southern upbringing and their grandfathers — true Southern gentlemen. Says Newberry: “Why can’t we associate ourselves with who we are — somebody that you have a connection to, rather than some celebrity you are told to aspire to be?”

Newberry says his second endeavor has given him a better perspective of his litigation practice representing small businesses. “Being an owner has been wonderful,” he says. “I’m not just a person who is hired to examine a client’s problem — I’m a person who has also faced that problem. That has made me a better attorney for my clients.” — *P.G.*



DOG'S BEST FRIEND

What started as an effort to play with dogs, without necessarily taking on the full responsibility of adopting one, turned into a long-term volunteer endeavor when I first stepped into the Town Lake Animal Center (now Austin Animal Center). Within months of starting to volunteer at the Center, I had agreed to serve as the lawyer for a new nonprofit, the Friends of Austin Animal Center. And I ended up adopting a dog anyway.

I have been the proud caretaker of Zeta for the past five years. I prefer not to think of myself as her "owner," because she and I take care of each other in many ways. I suppose I have always been a dog person. My parents already had a dog before I was born, and he and I competed for attention for several years.

The Friends of Austin Animal Center began in 2006 as a group of volunteers who wanted to help raise money for the shelter. The group is now a 501(c)(3) organization that gives Austinites the opportunity to contribute directly to the well-being of the shelter's animals.

As part of my volunteer work at the Center, I co-chair the Animal Welfare Committee with Kelley Dwyer and Rebecca Whitehouse. We provide information on the latest animal-related legal issues to the Austin legal community, but we also serve the public. Our first project to benefit the wider Austin community was to provide legal information to new adopters at the Austin Animal Center and other shelters around the city.

People are inundated with information about their pets. Lost among all the meet-up groups and reality shows are the legal rights and responsibilities of pet ownership. Dogs in particular bring a wide array of legal issues into a person's life. We provide guidance to people who are taking on the responsibility of owning a dog through materials that help them understand their responsibilities to that dog and to others. — *David Wells*



Austin attorney David Wells and Zeta in front of the Austin Animal Center.

TEXAS PEOPLE



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