

NEWSLETTER

COMMITTED TO THE PRINCIPLES OF LEGAL EXCELLENCE, COMMUNITY SERVICE, AND INCREASED MINORITY PARTICIPATION IN THE PRACTICE OF LAW

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



Sharon V. Burrell

Can you believe it's August already? Although it's been years since most of us were in school, it's hard to get away from the mind set that Summer should be a time of rest and that things will go back to normal in September. Many bar associations take the Summer off and resume in September. While Bourne takes a hiatus from meetings during July and August, that doesn't mean the organization itself has been on hiatus. Some of our committees have been hard at work over the Summer to prepare for the Fall.

Many Bourne members and I started the Summer off by attending the Maryland State Bar Association's annual meeting in Ocean City. In addition to various opportunities

to meet attorneys and judges from across the state, there were numerous CLEs that provided valuable information. Many of the CLE handouts were included on a CD distributed to each participant. Please contact me for a list of topics if you are interested. One of the highlights of the annual meeting was seeing JFB member **Lade Akinbolaji** presented with the Edward F. Shea, Jr. Professionalism Award by the Maryland Bar Foundation. Congratulations **Lade!**

Also in June, Bourne had its final meeting before the summer break. The meeting featured a CLE on private practice given by one of JFB's founders, **Samuel C. Hamilton**, Past President **Sallie E. Williams**, and CLE committee chair **Agnes C. Powell**. The panel dealt with such topics as setting up a practice, how to get and keep clients and dealing with stress. Each panel member

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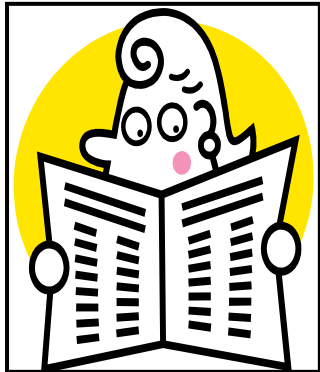
BAR MENTEES — GETTING OVER THE BAR

July's Maryland Bar Exam marked the end of the inaugural **Howard Law Bar Mentorship Program**, an effort between **Howard University School of Law**, the **Black Women's Bar Association of Suburban Maryland** and **JFB**.

This program harkens to JFB's mission to insure the continuation of African-Americans in the legal profession.

The effort was spearheaded by **Dolores Dorsainvil** and our own Past-President **William Snoddy**.

Several JFB members — too many to name in this column — served as bar mentors providing support to Howard Law's recent graduates during this most trying time in their life. As with all things, that too did pass. CONGRATULATIONS ALL!



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The **JFB Newsletter Committee** strives to insure that the *JFB Newsletter* provides a valuable resource to its members. But we need your help. The Newsletter Committee invites your participation as a Committee member or as a contributor. We welcome articles and information on topics of interest to JFB members. For further information, please contact **Joel Braithwaite**. (See above.)

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK (Cont.)

(continued from page 1)

also spoke about planning for retirement. For as **Agnes Powell** put it, "However old we look to you, you get here sooner than you think." It was a very lively, frank and informative discussion.

As you will see from the article in this issue, the J. Franklyn Bourne Scholarship Fund had another successful Golf Classic on July 18. The tournament was originally scheduled for June 25, but was postponed due to rain. Kudos and thanks to Golf Classic co-chairs **Garland Stillwell** and **William Snoddy**, who coordinated with two other bar associations for an enjoyable event. Many thanks also to **Keith A. Parris**, who couldn't make the Shotgun start because of a court conflict, but came later to volunteer and served as JFB's photographer.

We will round out the Summer with our annual New Admittees Reception. This year's reception will

be held on August 19, 2006, at the home of **Holly and Jodi Reed**. **Chief Judge Robert Bell** will once again be our special guest. Invitations have gone out and if you did not receive yours, please contact me.

August is the transition month before activities begin again in full force. As we transition into the Fall, please think about your level of participation in Bourne. Have you done what you set out to do at the beginning of the year? Have you attended Bourne meetings and events? It's not too late. And don't forget, elections are coming up in November – not just for the State and Counties, but for Bourne as well. Now is the time to start thinking about running for office.

I hope to see each of you at the New Admittees Reception on August 19. If not, then I'll see you in September.

Now I'm off to the NBA Convention.

Sharon V. Burrell, Esquire
President, JFB Bar Association

NAACP HONORS DEBRA DAVIS

Congratulations are in order for JFB Past President **Debra M. Davis**. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People recently honored Debra by presenting her with its Foot Soldier in the Sand Award during the NAACP's 97th Annual Convention held in Washington, DC. Debra received the award on July 17 at the Clarence Mitchell Memorial Luncheon.

Each year, the NAACP honors attorneys who have gone above and beyond the call of duty on behalf of the NAACP and its civil rights agenda by contributing their legal expertise on a *pro bono* basis.



Debra M. Davis

Debra is a solo practitioner with an office in Camp Springs, Maryland. The Honorable **Alexander Williams, Jr.**, U.S. District Judge and JFB Past President, delivered the luncheon's keynote address.

DID YOU KNOW?



Several JFB members are running for state and local offices: Statewide, **Anthony G. Brown** is running for Lt. Governor on the ticket with Baltimore Mayor Martin O'Malley. In Prince George's County **Karen Pope-Onwukwe** is running for the Maryland House of Delegates, District 22; **Dennis Whitley** is running for Prince George's County School Board, District 1. In Montgomery County **Caryn Hines** is running for Clerk of the Circuit Court.

Wedding Bells! Congratulations to JFB Past President **William A. Snoddy** and **Wenessa Bell** on their wedding in June. That being said, where are the pictures William?

Stay tuned for a forthcoming announcement on the identity of the keynote speaker at **JFB's Annual Scholarship Banquet** in November at Martin's Crosswinds in Greenbelt, MD. The Banquet Committee informs us that tickets will soon be available.

The *JFB Newsletter* is published monthly except July. All rights are reserved but articles may be reprinted without permission, provided proper credit is given. JFB members receive this newsletter at no cost. Statements expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the **J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Association, Inc.** or its officers.

The *JFB Newsletter* invites letters and articles. Submissions should be sent by E-mail, in MS Word format, to Joel.Braithwaite@gmail.com. Editor reserves the right to shorten any submissions to meet space limitations. Deadline is the 29th of each month.

SCHOLARSHIP GOLF TOURNAMENT



Alvin Harper, Greg Kidd and Chuck Fuller.
Winners of the Eagle Flight Tournament

On Tuesday, July 18, 2006, over 70 golfers braved 100 degree heat to participate in the **J. Franklyn Bourne Scholarship Fund's Fifth Annual Golf Classic** held at the Timbers at Troy Golf Course in Elkridge, Maryland. This year's Tournament was co-sponsored with the **Monumental City Bar Foundation** and the **Everett J. Waring - Juanita Jackson Mitchell Law Society of Howard County**. Proceeds from the tournament will be used to support each organization's scholarship award activities.



JFB Members Charles McNair, Stacey Martin and
Garland Stillwell.
Second Place in Par Flight Tournament

Golfers were divided into three flights – eagle, birdie and par – based upon final scores to give all participants an opportunity to win. First Place in the "eagle" flight went to **Chuck Fuller, Forster Harmon, Greg Kidd and Alvin Harper**. JFB's **Stacey Martin** earned a trophy for longest drive on the 15th hole. Stacey was also part of a foursome with **Garland Stillwell, Denise Adah and Charles McNair** that earned second place in the "par" flight.

J. FRANKLYN BOURNE BAR ASSOCIATION, INC.
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COMMUNITY LAW DAY

Important Dates to Remember

New Admittees Reception

Sat., Aug. 19th, 4:00 p.m.

House of Holly and Jodi Reed, Silver Spring, MD
RSVP to Holly Reed at (301) 587-9480
or Sharon Burrell at (240) 777-6722.

General Membership Meeting

Thurs., Sept. 21st, 6:30 p.m.

Greenbelt Community Center
15 Crescent Road
Greenbelt, MD 20770

JFB will host Community Law Day "Survival Techniques for the 21st Century." The event will be held on Saturday September, 16th, 2006 from 1-4pm at the Peoples Community Baptist Church, 21 Norwood Rd., Silver Spring, MD 20905.

Topics will include police stops and arrests, juvenile arrest and detention and guardianship of the elderly. Admission is free.

For more information, please contact Aaronette Carter, Esq. at (301) 437-0239 or attycarter@aol.com or Dione Duckett, Esq. at duckettlaw@msn.com.

LLOYD — WELCOME TO EDITOR EMERITUS STATUS

Alas! This title is the last in a long series of retirements from various JFB positions including: Newsletter Committee Chair; Membership Committee Chair; Website Committee Chair; Membership Directory Chair; Free-Photography Chair; and last, but not least, Chief Cook & Bottlewasher.

Lloyd Johnson, you will truly be missed. Now, you can truly retire. Well almost. In a last ditch effort to keep you receiving a blank 1099 — the books show you owe JFB money for your years of dedicated service — you have been retained as **Editor Emeritus**, with Connie's permission.

No one knows the contours, powers, or exact job description of your position. Nevertheless, in accordance with JFB by-laws governing unpaid

positions, JFB still guarantees that you will continue to be overworked and underpaid.

To those wondering in whose capable hands Lloyd leaves this newsletter, allow me to introduce myself. I am **Joel Braithwaite** and I have a MegaMillions chance of filling Lloyd's shoes. As put by JFB's own, the Honorable **William Connelly**, U.S. Magistrate Judge, "JFB has the best newsletter of any bar association." Followed by, "Hah! YOU are replacing Lloyd? Lord help us."

Sorry to disappoint you Judge Connelly and members sharing that sentiment. I hereby guarantee that I cannot fill Lloyd's shoes. That being said, please email me your contributions at joel.braithwaite@gmail.com. I need the help.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION



JFB is committed to legal excellence, community service, and the advancement of African-American minorities in the legal profession. Our membership consists primarily of African-American attorneys who live and/or work in Montgomery and Prince George's Counties.

Membership classes are:

Active: Licensed to practice law in Maryland. Dues: admitted to the Bar for less than 5 years — \$25; all others — \$50.

Associate: Licensed in *any other jurisdiction*, who lives in Montgomery or Prince George's County. Dues: admitted to the Bar for less than 5 years — \$25; all others — \$50.

Student: Matriculated at a Washington metropolitan area law school *or* lives in Montgomery or Prince George's County and matriculated in any law school. Dues: \$5.

New Admittees: Admitted to practice in Maryland in the last 12 months. Dues waived.

For membership applications, contact **William A. Snoddy** by e-mail at wasnoddy@hotmail.com.