

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

June represents transitions for many: there are graduations for some, weddings for others. For Bourne it represents the end of an era as we bid a fond farewell to Newsletter Editor **Lloyd A. Johnson**. Although his title is “editor,” what Lloyd does goes far beyond editing -- he has been writer and publisher, as well as editor. Lloyd has been preparing the newsletter for more than five years and brought Bourne into the twenty-first century with his technical skills that enabled members to receive their newsletters via e-mail and to access them on Bourne’s website, which Lloyd re-invigorated three years ago. Through Lloyd’s efforts, Bourne has published a polished newsletter that our members look forward to reading cover to cover. As many of you know,

Lloyd and his wife **Connie** moved to Savannah last fall, but since then Lloyd has still prepared the newsletter, maintained a current membership list, and disseminated e-mails to members. While Lloyd will continue to be an honorary member, it is time now for a much-deserved rest from his newsletter responsibilities.

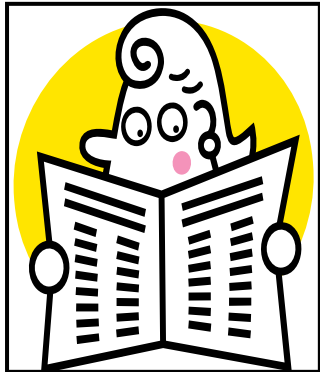
Lloyd is an example of a seasoned member who consistently gives back to Bourne with his time and skills. Other seasoned members in that category include **Karren Pope-Onwukwe** and Past President **Garland Stillwell** who gave an informative CLE on Mentoring at Bourne’s May general membership meeting. Karren and Garland spoke of how mentoring helped them and how they have in turn mentored other attorneys. JFB was particularly instrumental in Karren’s career because she first

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JUNE 22nd MEETING CLE —PRIVATE PRACTICE

The June 22nd meeting of the J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Assoc. will feature a CLE on private practice, addressing such topics as (1) balancing private life and private practice; (2) starting your own firm; (3) dealing with the stress of private practice; (4) planning for retirement – never too soon; (5) financial aspects of retirement.

Our panel will include one of JFB’s founder’s, **Samuel C. Hamilton**, past president **Sallie E. Williams**, and CLE committee chair **Agnes C. Powell**. All three have a wealth of experience as private practitioners. Come to the meeting and get valuable **Private Practice: Tips from the Seasoned Pros**.



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK (Cont.)

(continued from page 1)

heard of Bourne when she was in law school through Garland, who encouraged her to join the organization. JFB members have provided advice and assistance to Karren throughout various aspects of her career including preparing for the bar exam, encouraging her to participate in local and state bar associations, and assisting her in making the transition from government practice to private practice. Karren also spoke of how the **Honorable J. Franklyn Bourne** opened Prince George's County up for black attorneys, and that the Association has to live up to the legend. I think the Association does so every time one member helps another member to succeed.

Garland shared how he became a zoning attorney at the suggestion of a mentor he met while he was in college. He stated that mentoring is a mutual experience because if it's done right, both people will benefit. Garland urged young attorneys not to be afraid to ask

questions of seasoned attorneys, who can help the younger attorneys to avoid pitfalls. He also urged solo practitioners to seek out mentors to talk about issues of concern to them in private practice, which include not only the practice of law, but personal and social issues that they face. That leads us to the topic of our next CLE at the June general membership meeting, which will be on the fourth Thursday in June—June 22nd—because of the MSBA annual conference. Seasoned members **Samuel Hamilton, Agnes Powell** and Past President **Sallie Williams** will provide tips on private practice. Please plan to attend our last general membership meeting before the summer break.

As you read this issue of the newsletter and transition into summer, please join me in giving our heartfelt gratitude to Newsletter Editor Extraordinaire **Lloyd A. Johnson** for his excellent work throughout the years. Thank you, Lloyd for everything!

Sharon V. Burrell, Esquire
President, JFB Bar Association

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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.)

PRO BONO OPPORTUNITIES

The Law Foundation of Prince George's County provides access to justice for residents of Prince George's County by offering free attorney representation, free legal seminars for the public, and free professional training for its volunteer attorneys. Here are but a few clients who can use some help.

Visitation/Child Support:

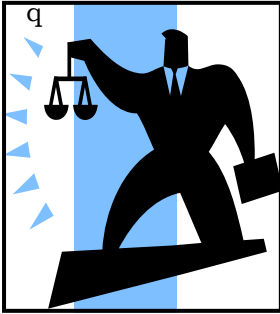
Client seeks modification of court-issued visitation schedule because opposing party resides with two other adults in a one bedroom apt. Opposing party was also ordered to pay \$825.00 per month in child support, which is irregularly forthcoming.

Joint Custody: Client seeks assistance with obtaining custody of two minor children. Opposing party took both children one year ago and refuses to return the children to date.

Divorce/Custody/Child Support: Opposing party abandoned the marital residence. Client and opposing party have three children, ages 18, 15, and 10. Client seeks assistance with proceeding through the courts to obtain her divorce. There is no property at issue.

For further information on these and other pro bono opportunities, call (301) 864-8353.

DID YOU KNOW... ?



Governor Robert Erhlich recently announced the judicial appointments of **John M. Conroy, Gary L. Crawford, Cheryl A. McCally, and William G. Simmons** to the District Court of Maryland for Montgomery County. The vacancies were created

earlier this year by the retirements of **Judge Cornelius Vaughney** and **Judge Louis Harrington** and the elevation of **Judge Michael Algeo** and **Judge Thomas Craven** to the Circuit Court for Montgomery County.

Wedding Bells! Congratulations to JFB's **Bruce A. Johnson** on his wedding last month to his lovely new bride, **Michelle**.

District Court Judicial Law Clerk Positions: The District Court of Maryland has positions available in designated districts for judicial law clerks to provide legal support to District Court judges. This is a unique opportunity to put your legal skills to work, learn court operations from the inside out, and gain invaluable "real life" practical experience while working in a challenging, high volume, highly-variable and fast-paced environment. You will work with several judges in varying court locations and gain exposure in your

own legal community. The normal contractual term is from September 1 through August 30.

For consideration, submit résumé and writing sample to the Administrative Judge in desired areas: **Hon. Eugene Wolfe**, Administrative Judge District Court of Maryland, 27 Courthouse Sqr., Rockville, Maryland 20850-2325 or **Hon. Thurman H. Rhodes**, Administrative Judge, District Court of Maryland, District Court of Maryland, 14735 Main St., Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772-3042.

New Admittees' Reception: Watch your e-mail for notification of time and place of JFB's annual New Admittees' Reception. As usual, it's a great opportunity to welcome our newly-minted attorneys in the legal community, to renew old friendships, and to make new friends in a casual environment.

Is This Your Last JFB Newsletter? If you haven't paid your 2006 JFB dues yet, this edition of the JFB Newsletter will be your last JFB Newsletter. JFB dues are payable the first of each year and, as a courtesy, we continue to send the Newsletter to active members of the previous year for six months—through this June edition. If you have any uncertainty about your membership status for 2006 contact Membership chair **William A. Snoddy** at wasnoddy@hotmail.com or JFB treasurer **Robin Bright** at brightrd@co.cal.md.us.

"DEAR COLLEAGUE"

This marks my final edit of the JFB newsletter and I now pass our newsletter's editorial baton to **Joel Braithwaite**, who in countless ways symbolizes the new generation of JFB. I will always treasure my relations with each one of you—whether in person or via this medium. For the opportunity to give back a small part of the intellectual and social nourishment I've received by JFB, I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Savannah and the Johnsons have heartily embraced one another. Nevertheless, as I wrote in our October newsletter, "Although we'll be hundreds of miles apart, JFB will always be in our thoughts and prayers. Please keep us in yours as well."

Lloyd A. Johnson, Esquire
Editor, JFB Newsletter

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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.

J. FRANKLYN BOURNE BAR ASSOCIATION, INC.
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Important Dates to Remember

General Membership Meeting

Thurs., June 22nd; 6:30 p.m.
Greenbelt Community Center
15 Crescent Road
Greenbelt, MD 20770

Scholarship Golf Classic

Tuesday, June 27th
The Timbers at Troy Golf Course
Elkridge, MD

FIFTH ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP GOLF CLASSIC

The J. Franklyn Bourne Bar **Scholarship Fund's Fifth Annual Scholarship Golf Classic**, co-sponsored with the **Monumental City Bar Foundation** and the **Everett J. Waring - Juanita Jackson Mitchell Law Society of Howard County**, will be held at the Timbers at Troy Golf Course in Elkridge, Maryland on *Tuesday, June 27, 2006* with a Shotgun start scheduled for 8:45 a.m. This is the premiere fundraising event for each organization for the awarding of cash scholarships to high school and law students.

The cost is \$125 per golfer or \$500 per four-some and the tournament's format is "Captain's Choice." The fee includes range balls, awards and prizes for longest drive and closest to the pin, lunch and other golf gifts. Send your registration to Garland H. Stillwell, Esquire, Golf Committee Chair, J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Association, Inc., P.O. Box 1121, Upper Marlboro, MD 20773-1121. Checks should be made payable to the "J. Franklyn Bourne Scholarship Fund, Inc." Contact **Garland Stillwell** at (202) 663-8147 or by e-mail at Garland.Stillwell@pillsburylaw.com.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION



The **J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Assoc. Inc.** 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.