

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



Bridgette A. Greer

"... I would like to take this opportunity to welcome each of you to the 19th Annual Scholarship Awards Banquet of the J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Association, Inc. and the J. Franklyn Bourne Scholarship Fund, Inc.

"The resonating theme throughout this Administration was the "Three R's"...**r**ecruitment, **r**etention and **r**eclaiming of members. As various Bar Associations struggle with the decline in membership, Bourne has been creative in developing ways to boost membership participation. In March, we held a "Reclamation Social", which earned the Bar Association the "Best Service to the Bar Project Award" from the **Maryland State Bar Association**.

"We further served our community by sponsoring a high school student Oratorical Contest., "At What Price-Homeland Security." **Hon. Hassan El-Amin** and his committee did an outstanding job and the students were awarded scholarships for their hard work. ... in conjunction with the Monumental Bar Association (we) held a "Celebrity Golf Tournament," to benefit the Law Links and the J. Franklyn Bourne Scholarship Fund.

"... The Bar Association held several "Ask-a-Lawyer" Community Forums. Additionally, an "Elder Law Clinic" was held to address the increasing legal needs of our senior citizens.

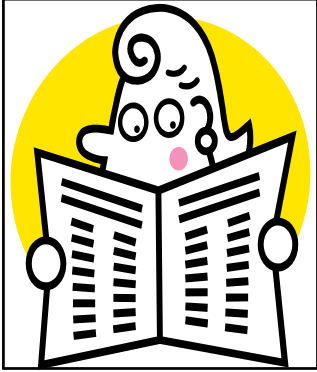
"... we are currently in the process of up-dating the Attorney Resource Directory. This publication will be released in early December.

(Continued on page 2)

GUEST SPEAKER : HON JOHN D. CONYERS



Congressman John D. Conyers (D-MI), Ranking Minority Member of the House Committee on the Judiciary was the guest speaker at JFB's 19th Scholarship Awards Banquet. Introduced by Past JFB President, **Gregory Gill**, Conyers challenged attorneys to become involved in the political process. **Congresswoman Diane Watson** (D-CA) also delivered remarks to the sold-out gathering.



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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 **Sharon V. Burrell** or **Lloyd A. Johnson**. (See above.)

SCHOLARSHIP AWARD WINNERS.

The 2003 J. Franklyn Bourne Scholarship Fund Scholars are **Sorella Jacobs**, a student at the University of Maryland, School of Law, **Vanessa Motley**, a student at the American University's Washington College of Law, and **Demetris White**, a student at the University of Maryland School of Law.

Each scholar will receive a cash scholarship from the J. Franklyn Bourne Scholarship Fund, Inc. and a one-year student membership in the J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Association, Inc. The

2003 JFB Scholars were selected on the basis of academic excellence, community service and a commitment to the principles, that guide the Bar Association.

Garland H. Stillwell, Chair of the JFB Scholarship Committee told the JFB Newsletter: "Our 2003 J. Franklyn Bourne Scholars each have made a personal commitment to community service in addition to their academic and professional pursuits. One day we will be looking to them as the next generation of leaders for our community."

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK (Cont.)

(Continued from page 1)

"... thank(s) (to) all of our Committee Chairs and members who have actively sought to raise the visibility of the Association by being involved in the community and addressing the many challenges of a changing society ... especially **William A. Snoddy** and his committee for their hard work in planning and organizing this Banquet.

"It has been my pleasure to serve as your President. As

Hon. Charles B. Day eloquently wrote in a recent newsletter, "I've learned that JFB means ... being ticked off, abused, frustrated, and maybe having a period of separation. But, I've learned it also means coming back, stepping up and showing up...because your support is needed. I've learned what J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Association really means to me. It means that you stick together... kind of like...family."

Bridgette A. Greer, Esquire
President, JFB Bar Assoc., Inc.

DID YOU KNOW...



Colette R. Gresham has accepted a position as Legislative Liaison for the Court of Appeals. Her new address is Robert C. Murphy Courts of Appeals Building, 361 Rowe Blvd., Annapolis, MD 21201. Telephone: (410) 260-1523. E-mail: colette.gresham@courts.state.md.us

Reginald Sealey and Bruce E. Goodman announce the opening of their joint law office at 6231 Crain Hwy, SE, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772 (301) 952-8809

BANQUET AWARD RECIPIENTS

Dedication to the Organization

Award: Karren Pope-Onwukwe for her unwavering commitment to the organization and particularly the elderly community through her participation in the "Elderly Law Clinics," and "Ask a Lawyer Community Forums."

Legal Excellence Award: Judge

DeLawrence M. Beard, a founding member of JFB Bar Association, Inc. and Chief Judge of the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, for his outstanding contribution to the judiciary and legal community.

President's Award: Judge Hassan El-

Amin, District Court for Prince George's County, for his substantial contribution to initiate the JFB Lawyer Referral Service Program, which will allow individuals of limited

financial means greater access to legal services.

Community Service Award for Montgomery

County: Victim's Rights Foundation, Gregory Wims Founder and President for their financial assistance and support to victims of violent crimes and their families and in particular to the Washington area sniper victims and their families. Presented by **Hon. Daneeka Varner Cotton**

Community Service Award for Prince

George's County: Rising S.T.A.R.S. Youth Scholarship Foundation, Hon. Herman C. Dawson, Sr. President, for participating in the lives of the youth in Prince George's County, who have come into contact with the criminal justice system, by facilitating their achievement of academic improvement and diverting their energies toward real life employment experiences. Presented by **Hon. Daneeka Varner Cotton**

DID YOU KNOW ... (Cont.)

JFB President-Elect **Debra M. Davis' firm, Law Offices of Debra M. Davis**, has relocated to Park Place Office, 5867 Allentown Road, Camp Springs, Md. 20746. Telephone: (301) 899-9400. E-mail: dmdlaw@erols.com.

The **Monumental City Bar Association** will hold its 2003 Holiday Gala, Friday, December 12, 2003 at Pimlico Club House in Baltimore. For further information call (410) 234-9991 or **Bridgette A. Greer** at (301) 883-7640 or E-mail at bagreer@co.pg.md.us.

The **Maryland Legal Services Corporation** will hold its Annual Awards Reception on December 8, 2003 at the Radisson Plaza Lord Baltimore Hotel in Baltimore. For further information, call (410) 576-9494.

JFB Past-President, **Midgett S. Parker, Jr.** will receive an outstanding leadership award at the Anne Arundel County's **16th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Awards Ceremony** on January 15, 2004 at 6:00 p.m. at the La Fountain Blue in Glen Burnie, Maryland at 7514 Ritchie Highway, Glenn Burnie, MD. Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. will be the guest speaker.

Cost: \$400.00 for a table of 10. If you are interested in participating, please contact **Arthur Horne** directly at AHorne9291@aol.com or by phone at (301) 925-1800.

Reminder to **Committee Chairs**: Please submit your end-of-the-year committee reports President **Bridgette A. Greer** by no later than December 1st by "snail mail" or e-mail at bagreer@co.pg.md.us.

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 FAX to (301) 809-0921 or by E-mail, in MS Word format, to lloydajohnson@comcast.net. 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 and Election of 2004 Officers

Thurs., November 20th, 6:30 p.m..
Greenbelt Community Center
15 Crescent Road
Greenbelt, MD

JFB ELECTIONS — THURSDAY, NOV. 20TH

Election of JFB officers for 2004 will be held at the General Membership meeting at 6:30 p.m. on **Thursday, November 20th** at the Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD. Nominations will be accepted for the positions of **President-Elect, Vice President, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary, and Recording Secretary.**

Hon. Charles B. Day, Chair of JFB's Nominations and Elections Committee, reports that, in a departure from past practices, ballots will be electronically transmitted to JFB members who have valid and operating e-mail addresses. Ballots have already been mailed to those JFB members who have not provided JFB with an e-mail address.

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 **Bridgette A. Greer** at (301) 883-7640 or by e-mail at bagreer@co.pg.md.us