

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



William A. Snoddy

It is hard to believe that my term as president is almost over. Time truly does fly when you are having fun. It has been both a pleasure and an honor to serve you as president of this association.

This year, the J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Association continued its tradition of giving back to the community through its community service projects. In February, Bourne awarded college scholarships to the top three finishers in our 4th Annual Oratorical Contest, which featured our largest and strongest field of competitors from high schools in Prince George's and Montgomery counties debating the merits, or lack thereof, of Bill Cosby's much-discussed comments on the parenting skills of economically-disadvantaged African. -Americans. Congratulations

to **Loide Marwanga** of Richard Montgomery High, **Gerald Lambert** of Frederick Douglass High and **Bhavna Batra** of Northwest High, who finished first, second and third respectively.

The Association continues to work in partnership with other local and specialty bar associations by sponsoring joint projects to encourage networking and provide greater involvement in the delivery of services to our communities. We partnered with the *Prince George's Chapter of the NAACP* to sponsor an "Ask a Lawyer" and estate planning forum at the First Baptist Church of Glenarden, where JFB members and members of the church's Legal Ministry dispensed free legal advice and answered questions. In May, J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Association Scholarship Fund, Inc. and the Monumental City Bar Foundation once again held their annual Schol-

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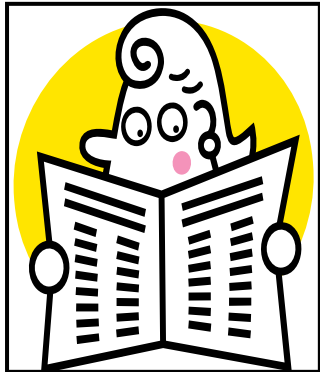
JFB SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS BANQUET.



Del. Anthony G. Brown

Keynote Speaker **Delegate Anthony G. Brown** adeptly tied the theme of Bourne's 21st Annual Scholarship Awards Banquet "Serving Our Communities and Our Country" with his speech, which focused on what it means to each individual to be of service. Quoting President John F. Kennedy, Delegate Brown noted that "it is within each of us where the answer lies. It is incumbent upon each of us to serve." He noted that the government has not served all of its people equally and

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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.)

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK (Cont.)

(continued from page 1)

arship Golf Classic to benefit their respective scholarship funds. This year's tournament raised more than \$12,000. As a result we are pleased to be able to award scholarships to law school students who are committed to the mission and objectives of our bar association. Congratulations to this year's recipients: **Michelle D. Thomas** and **Reuben S. Canada**, both of Howard University's School of Law and **Kelley M. Lane** of the University of Pittsburgh School of Law.

The Bar Association was also successful at recruiting new members. This year, JFB increased its dues-paying membership by 45 percent. Many of the new members have demonstrated an interest in actively assisting the Association in continuing its mission. I look forward to working with them to build on the success of this organization.

Before my term ends, some work remains to be done. This month, JFB will publish the third edition of its *Attorney Resource Directory*, which identifies approximately 500 African-American attorneys who live and/or practice in Prince George's and Montgomery counties. We have updated and expanded the directory since the publication of our second edition in 1999. On November 17, we will hold our *annual meeting* during which we will elect officers for the 2006 bar year. We will also vote on the proposed amendments to the Association's By-laws.

Thank you for the opportunity to lead this organization. I would especially like to thank the members of the Executive Board and the Committee Chairs without whose help none of this year's success would be possible.

William A. Snoddy, Esquire
President, JFB Bar Assoc.

JFB SCHOLARSHIP BANQUET (Cont.)

(Continued from page 1.)

specifically referred to the aftermath of the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina, the high number of African American males imprisoned, and the lack of health care by many African Americans.

Leading up to Delegate Brown's inspiring speech was the presentation of awards for Legal Excellence, the President's Award, Community Service, Scholarships, and a special presentation by **County Attorney Charles W. Thompson**, who acknowledged the contributions made by the outgoing and the incoming Bourne presidents with certificates of appreciation. **Judge William Missouri** of the Circuit Court for Prince George's County, Maryland received the Legal Excellence Award for his outstanding career. The President's

Award was presented to **Garland Stillwell**, whom President Snoddy referred to as his "Go-To Guy." **Dr. Yvette Butler** of Montgomery County's "Gap Busters" and **Mary Kucharski** of Prince George's County's Christmas in April took home the Community Service Awards for their dedicated service.

The scholarship recipients were **Michelle D. Thomas**, of Howard University, **Reuben S. Canada**, of Howard Univ. and **Kelley M. Lane** from the Univ. of Pittsburgh.

Thanks to all who supported the Banquet and especially the Banquet Committee, who helped to make the evening a success. I think it can truly be said that "a good time was had by all."

Sharon V. Burrell, Chair, Banquet Comm.
President-Elect

Awards Banquet Photo Gallery

Photos by Donovan Marks



Upwards of 400 guests attended JFB's Scholarship Awards Banquet



Montgomery County Executive, Doug Duncan, was a popular table-visitor.



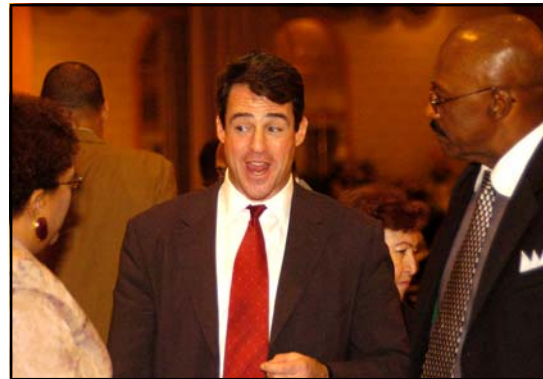
President William A. Snoddy, Hon. Doug Duncan, and JFB President-Elect, Sharon V. Burrell



Scholarship Award recipients.



Montgomery County Attorney, Charles Thompson, recognizes JFB President-Elect, Sharon V. Burrell.



Montgomery State's Attorney Douglas Gansler



Garland Stillwell (r) accepts President's Award from JFB President William A. Snoddy.

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 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

Thurs., Nov. 17th, 6:30 p.m.
Greenbelt Community Center
15 Crescent Road
Greenbelt, MD 20770

Montgomery County Committee

Sat., Dec. 3rd; 9:30 a.m.
27 W. Jefferson St.
Rockville, MD 20850

Annual Holiday Party

Date & place TBA

ANNUAL MEETING & BYLAWS AMENDMENTS—Nov. 17th

JFB's Annual Meeting on *Thursday, November 17th* will feature two crucial actions by the body — the election of 2006 officers and consideration of changes in the Association's bylaws.

Elections will be held for the following officer positions: *president-elect, vice president, treasurer, recording secretary and corresponding secretary*. Only members in good standing are eligible to be officers. To serve as president-elect or treasurer,

a member must have the additional qualifications of three *consecutive* years of active membership and have served on a standing committee for at least two years. JFB's officers and two appointed executive officers make up the Association's Executive Committee. In addition to the election of officers, members will take action upon proposed changes in the Association bylaws, which were discussed during the October general membership meeting

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 **Lloyd A. Johnson** by e-mail at LloydAJohnson@comcast.net.