



# *The Docket*

**Volume 9, No. 11**

**December 2009**

## **A Proud Day to Be a Lawyer**

I hope you share in my deep respect for the privilege of calling yourself a lawyer. While there are days I question whether I should have chosen an easier profession or vocation (unfortunately, my dreams of an NFL career came to an end in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade), I have a number of days each year when I know without reservation that I am pursuing the career I believe God prepared me to do at this stage of my life. One of those days was November 3, 2009 when I participated in the first ever Montgomery County Bar Association Legal Clinic. I personally visited with two clients which was in itself rewarding. However, the most rewarding thing for me that day was to see a diverse segment of our Bar come together for a great cause. At the clinic, a number of solo firm lawyers, Plaintiff lawyers and Defense lawyers (civil and criminal) all worked together to serve the public by providing free legal counsel to the disadvantaged.. It was one of the best pictures of our State Bar's motto—"Lawyers Render Service." I hope you will consider participating in the Legal Clinic in future months. Please call me if you want more information.

This edition of our newsletter may be the most read legal publication in the whole State due to the traditional December column prepared by Bobby Segall. Bobby has been preparing his list of notable lawyers (and sometimes suspects) for as long as I can remember while at the same time being one of the busiest lawyers in the whole state. The next time you see Bobby please be sure to thank him for his terrific service.

Finally, I look forward to seeing you at our annual MCBA Holiday Party on December 10. This is a great opportunity for us to celebrate the season as lawyers and render service to the public by donating a toy at the door.

Patrick Sefton, 2009 MCBA  
President



Tom Gardner, Jr., Chief Executive Officer of MCAA ; Thomas J. Methvin, President, Alabama State Bar (Beasley, Allen, Crow, Methvin, Portis, and Miles, P.C.); Patrick Sefton, President, MCBA (Sasser, Sefton, Tipton, and Davis, P.C.) The MCBA is partnering with the Montgomery Community Action Agency (MCAA) to sponsor the free legal clinics. MCAA donates the use of its Head Start building.

## Free Legal Services Meet Needs In the Community-*by Thomas Methvin*



Thomas J. Methvin,  
President, Alabama  
State Bar, 2009-2010

As most of you know, a priority for the State Bar this year, and for our Montgomery County Bar Association, is “Access to Justice.” The MCBA Pro Bono committee is working to increase participation in our Volunteer Lawyer program, and actively participated in Pro Bono Week activities Oct. 25-31.

In November, Montgomery County volunteer lawyers began hosting monthly clinics to provide pro bono services to those in need of access to justice in our area. The Montgomery County Pro Bono Civil Clinic is held on the first Tuesday of every month from 3-6 p.m. at 1100 Adams Avenue. Lawyers and paralegals volunteer their time to evaluate potential cases and work with clients who fit the criteria for free legal assistance.

At the first clinic, held November 3, lawyers consulted with 28 clients on issues involving family law, contracts, immigration, and torts. Issues that can be addressed at this free legal clinic include divorce, custody and visitation; debts, bankruptcy and foreclosure; landlord and tenant issues, and domestic violence issues.

The clinic is sponsored by the Montgomery County Bar Association and the Montgomery Community Action Agency (MCAA). A partnership with MCAA was a natural fit, as this agency has been serving the needs of low-income residents in Montgomery County for more than 43 years.



MCBA is partnering with the Montgomery Community Action Agency to provide free legal clinics. Pictured above: Royal Dumas, Chairman, MCBA Pro Bono Committee; Kim Cobb Ray, Executive Assistant to MCAA Director; Patrick Sefton, President, MCBA; Theresa Harris, Family Resource Coordinator for MCAA; Tom Gardner, Jr., Chief Executive Officer, MCAA.

This is the first free legal services clinic ever established in Montgomery County, although pro bono work is a regular part of many lawyers’ regular practice. Even without formal programs like the Montgomery County Pro Bono Civil Clinic, attorneys lend resources to help with pro bono cases. But too often, the people who need these services are not aware that they are available.

“Most lawyers are out there to help people. It’s our profession,” says Royal Dumas, of Hill, Hill, Carter, Franco, Cole & Black, P.C., who chairs the MCBA’s Pro Bono Committee. “And, there are people out there who need our help, who need these services in the community, who can’t afford a lawyer. The challenge is bridging the gap, and getting those two groups of people together,” he says. “It is our hope that by establishing a regular clinic where these services are offered, at a regular time each month, that people will become more aware of the fact that help is available, and where to get that help.”

The goal at the Pro Bono Civil Clinic is to not turn anyone away. Even clients who do not meet the criteria for assistance will receive a referral to someone who can help them. We don’t want to see anyone fall through the cracks.

“Lawyers see people all the time who come into court unrepresented,” said Pat Sefton of Sasser, Sefton, Tipton and Davis, P.C., MCBA President. “You wonder what a difference it would have made if only that person had the resources to know what to do.”

In order to make this effort a success, we need you to get involved. Our Montgomery County Bar Association Pro Bono Committee is working to increase participation in the VLP. If you are not already a part of this program, please consider joining now and taking an active part in ongoing pro bono legal services clinics. For more information or to commit your services, contact Royal Dumas at [rdumas@hillhillcarter.com](mailto:rdumas@hillhillcarter.com) or call him at 334-834-7600.

*Note: The views expressed in this article are (not necessarily) those of the author, and are also not necessarily held by the officers, board members, or staff of MCBA.*

## DISTINGUISHABLE LAWYER AWARDS 2009

By Bobby Segall

Another DECADE has swooshed into history. 2010 looms large, and the new millennium is no longer new. But as time flees and flows, Montgomery lawyers still flourish. Neither cap and trade, nor public (or private) options deter us. The economy be damned! We remain—above all else—distinguishable. And, as we blast into the new year, our first Most Distinguishable Lawyer is a Blast from the Past. In the infancy of this column, Julian McPhillips retired the Walter Cronkite Award for appearing on television more often than the then CBS anchor. Walter's gone, but Julian perseveres—appearing almost daily on television, radio, or in print. Having blessedly abandoned his (too snug) wrestling snuggles and his (junior high school) football uniform, Julian has aspired to a less pornographic media image. In his more dignified persona, he has formed more opinions than the Eleventh Circuit, and like Chris Weller, has strived to publish them all. Just this year, Julian has vigorously favored and disfavored us with his views on abortion, healthcare reform, Don Siegelman, Richard Scrushy (multiple times), and every political candidate from Mayor to Governor to Student Council President. Unlike Chris, Julian has spared us his views on cap and trade.

Julian's notoriety pervades his practice. Just this year, he trashed Troy for prosecuting Whitehall's mayor, and sued Wetumpka over a sinkhole, and Prattville over a police officer's having allegedly taken advantage of an inebriated woman who called 911 for help, but apparently not of the sort the officer had to offer. Along with Richard White, Julian won a mistrial in a capital murder case, and in representing an alleged cult leader who called Rose Sanders the devil and Julian a great civil rights lawyer, Julian threatened to sue anyone who contradicted his client. As Shakespeare once said, (or should have said), "Notoriety, your name is Julian." Through all the drama, Julian, whose obsession with Scott and Zelda is legendary, led the Fitzgerald Museum through its 22nd anniversary gala and faithfully attended all matches in the Julian McPhillips Wrestling Tournament. His home, of course, is also named for him. Yes, in the words of Paul Simon, he's still crazy after all these years. And, for that reason and many more, he richly deserves recognition as Montgomery's Most Distinguishable Lawyer of 2009.

Our second honoree, Bryan Stevenson, is director of the Equal Justice Initiative and is probably our country's foremost lawyer representing death row inmates. Bryan is beyond Distinguishable. His selflessness and general character make Atticus Finch look like Donald Trump, and his deep religious faith makes John Ed look like Larry Darby (once was). He even looks good. Bryan could wear Julian's wrestling tights or his own junior high school football uniform, and GQ would still drool. Long underpaid for his talents, this Harvard Law School graduate who teaches adjunct at NYU, has received every award available to mankind, including the MacArthur Foundation's Genius Award. Truth be told, he's just too damn good for the rest of us. I can live with that, though, or thought I could until this year.

Now he's gone too far. Along with receiving the Gruber Foundation's 2009 Justice Prize for his tireless advocacy of human rights, Bryan also earned a well deserved Gruber cash award totaling \$250,000. You guessed it! Obviously to mock his less altruistic brothers and sisters at the Bar, Bryan donated the entire amount, every copper, to EJI. The devil with "tireless", this guy makes me tired. Let's admit it. Your normal every day underpaid (or overpaid) lawyer would keep at least a little for himself, but that's not Bryan. And thank goodness for him! He may make us feel a little inadequate, but also immensely proud. And for that, and for the inspiration he's provided over the years, he richly deserves recognition as 2009's Co-most Distinguishable Lawyer.

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Now, sit back with your favorite adult beverage, drink it all in one gulp so you can forget Iran, Pakistan, Afghanistan (and all other countries ending with “an”), and focus on those in our Bar who have become Distinguishable in 2009.

1. “The King and His Court” Award– Judge Charles Price- (This long time King of Judges in Montgomery County has been honored by the naming of his Courthouse for him.)
2. “The Truman Show” Award– Judges Truman Hobbs, Sr. and Truman Hobbs, Jr. (Sr. extolled the virtues of Judge Phelps at the courthouse naming ceremony, while Jr. suggested that Judge Price’s name be placed on the courthouse with Velcro.)
3. “King of the Court” Award– Troy King (His supremacy with respect to the State’s position in Court has been challenged by the Governor in the Bingo context.)
4. “Supreme Allied Commander of the Court” Award– Grif Sikes, Dean Hartzog, David Sawyer, Eric Locke, Bob Maddox, Nathan Wilson, Tom Wright, and other AOC lawyers. (They really do run the Courts.)
5. “Mini-Me” Award– Chief Justice Sue Bell Cobb (Her many supporters wish there were two of her so she could be both Governor and Chief Justice.)
6. “Diary of a Mad Lawyer” Award– Gibson Vance (The busiest lawyer in Montgomery is President-Elect of the **American** Association of Justice, the host of “Law Talk”, the organizer of local and statewide judicial campaigns, and an active practitioner of law.)
7. “The Great Depression” Award– Jere Beasley and Dee Miles (That’s how Jere and Dee felt when the Supreme Court reversed their huge verdicts against drug companies.)
8. “Sex and the City” Award– Kim Fehl (Appointed first woman City Attorney)
9. “Bernie Madoff’d” Award– Tricia Bushnell, Alicia D’Addario, Kristen Nelson, and other underpaid lawyers at the Equal Justice Initiative (The Ponzi Scheme perpetrated by Bernie Madoff closed down a foundation that provided 25% of EJI’s budget.)
10. “Power to the People” Award– Tom Methvin (Tom has focused his State Bar Presidency, and his considerable talents, on providing access to justice for the poor statewide.)
11. “Live and Let Die” Award– Chris Weller (In Chris’ view, healthcare reform will let loose roving bands of death panels.)
12. “Health is Better than Wealth” Award– Ray Warren (State President of AARP urged folks to get the facts about healthcare reform and to “debunk the myths and lies that pop up every day.”)
13. “Dick Cheney” Award– Alex Holtsford, Les Pittman, Don Jones, Gibson Vance, Judge Jimmy Pool, and Jeff Duffey (These Bush era presidents of the Montgomery Bar have employed the former Vice President to preserve the legacy of their administrations against unfair criticisms.)
14. “Yom Kippur” Award– Les Hayes, Karen Knight, Troy Massey, Darron Hendley, Buster Russell, and Ed Parish (These City judges and prosecutors provided Atonement, i.e. amnesty, to folks who had not paid their fines, but were willing to work out a payment plan.)
15. “Olympia Snowe Token Republican” Award– Leura Canary (Despite several qualified and willing Demo candidates from both within and without the U.S. Attorney’s Office, Leura has remained U.S. Attorney throughout 2009.)
16. “Take This Job and Shove It” Award– Joe Van Heest, Judge Tracy McCooey, Judge Charles Price, James Anderson, Clark Morris, Ron Wise, Geri Grant, Truman Hobbs, Jr. and former Judges Vanzetta McPherson and Delores Boyd (People considered to be U.S. Attorney who either rejected, or were rejected for, the job– either way, shove it!!)
17. “Levi Johnston Best-in-Law” Award- (Former Judge) John Capell and Robert Black (John did better in the son-in-law department with Robert than Sarah Palin did with Levi.)
18. “John and Kate, Plus Eight” Award– Cole Portis (He and his lovely wife graced the cover of *Montgomery Living Magazine* with their (pretty near) Eight children.)
19. “One Degree of Separation” Award– Tyrone Means (Represents School Superintendent whose lack of a PhD Degree separates her from critics on her Board.)

20. "Don't be Too Quick to Judge" Award– Justice Tom Parker (Recently released statistics for Supreme Court suggest that Justice Parker, and possibly other justices, render decisions only after long and thoughtful deliberation.)
21. "California Dreamin'" Award–Jeff Blitz, Gerald Swann, and Mike Brock (These former Crimson Tide football players are dreaming of a National Championship showdown in California in January.)
22. "Brother, Can You Spare a Dime" Award– Jimmy Fry and Linda Lund (Executive Directors of Legal Services Alabama and of the State Bar's Volunteer Lawyer Program represent folks who really need that dime.)
23. "Tempest in a (Tea) Pot (or Kettle)" Award– Judge Johnny Hardwick and Johnnie Smith (There was a strong disagreement between them, resulting in a gale force tempest, on the question of whether the common phrase comparing a pot and a kettle to argue hypocrisy is racist.)
24. "Rock Star" Award– Judge Myron Thompson (He was named on Slate.com's short list for the U.S. Supreme Court position being vacated by Justice Souter– the President messed up.)
25. "Go Blue" Award– Judge Billy Shashy (Having switched parties this year, Judge Shashy is rooting for the Democratic Party in next year's elections– especially in his judicial race.)
26. "Go Red" Award– Judge Will O'Rear (As the only remaining Republican Montgomery County Circuit or District Court Judge, he's hoping next year is the Year of the Token.)
27. "Go Green" Award– Olivia Rowell, Mary-Frank Brown, Schuyler Espy, Antoinette Jones, Jim Wright, and Steve Sibley (ADEM lawyers forever pursuing environmental greenness.)
28. "One Giant Step for Mankind" Award– Ellen Brooks (She's close to realizing her dream of establishing a Family Justice Center in Montgomery, a "Wal-Mart for victims", where a victim of domestic violence or sexual assault can receive every needed service all in one stop.)
29. "Too Many Chiefs" Award– Judges Joel Dubina, Mark Fuller, Susan Russ Walker, Sue Bell Cobb, Charlie Price, and Les Hayes (All are chiefs of their Courts– the 11th Circuit, U.S. District Court, U.S. Magistrate Court, Alabama Supreme Court, Montgomery County Circuit Court, and City Court– respectively.)
30. "A House Divided" Award– James Anderson and Kenny Thomas (ASU continued its version of the Civil War as Judge Hobbs ruled, while apparently holding his nose, that ASU Trustees did not violate the law in removing Joe Reed's name from the Acadome.)
31. "A Party Divided" Award–Troy King (Our Republican Governor and U.S. Senators are supporting Troy's opponent in the Republican Primary.)
32. "Ain't Got No Home" Award– Marion Chartoff (Successfully attacked that part of Alabama's sex offender law that requires even indigent homeless offenders to provide a verifiable address as a condition of release.)
33. "Last Rodeo" Award– Judges Charles Price, Gene Reese, and Tracy McCooey (They have run, or are running, their last races before they are eligible for retirement or must retire.)
34. "One Giant Leap (of logic) for Mankind" Award– Tyrone Means (Hired on a no-bid contract to sue the Governor for a huge no bid contract the Governor gave Paragon.)
35. "Ain't That a Shame" Award– Spud Seale (Said it's shameful the State did not come to the defense of his client, Paragon, sooner than it did– the Governor agreed.)
36. "If the Glove Doesn't Fit" Award– Ron Wise, George Beck, Susan James, Christine Freeman, Tommy Goggans, Kevin Butler, Jeff Duffey, Bill Blanchard, Richard Keith, Lewis Gillis, Don Jones, Joe Van Heest, Don Bethel, Mike Kidd, Richard White, Mike Peterson, Bruce Maddox, Andrew Skier, Aimee Smith, Ben Schoettker, Angela Starr, Terry Luck, David Vickers, Julian McPhillips, and Tom Azar (These good criminal lawyers will argue "You Must Acquit.")
37. "Repeat Performance" Award– Louis Franklin, Steve Feaga, and J.B. Perrine (The Siegelman prosecution team reunited for the prosecution of Johnny Goff.)

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38. “Man On a Wire” Award- Tommy Gallion (Had to balance his desire to represent his friend, Johnny Goff, in a criminal prosecution with Goff’s need for Tommy’s testimony.)
39. “A Life Well Told” Award- Delores Boyd and Solomon Seay, Jr. (Their book on Solomon’s life received excellent reviews during the year.)
40. “Cutest Couple of (long-time) Married Lawyers” Award– Julie and Chris Weller, Connie and Bubba Walker, and Kim Oliver and Robert Ward.
41. “Cutest Couple of (reasonably long-time) Married Lawyers” Award- Suzie and Winston Edwards, Marion Chartoff and Kevin Butler, Mary Helner and Mark Sabel, Mary Goldthwaite and Dudley Perry, and Katya and Nelson Gill.
42. “Cutest (Judge-Lawyer) Married Couple” Award - Judge Susan and Dorman Walker, Judge Kelli Wise and Arthur Ray, and Judge Johnny and Tommie Hardwick.
43. “Cutest (former Judge-lawyer) Married Couple” Award- (Former Justice) Jean and Terry Brown, and (former Judge) Mark and Joi Montiel.
44. “Cutest Judge” Award– Judges Tracy McCooey, Truman Hobbs, Jr., Will O’Rear, Pam Higgins, Darron Hendley, Karen Knight, Patty Smith, Mark Fuller, and Myron Thompson.
45. “Cutest (Casually Dating) Couple of Lawyers” Award– Joana Ellis and Dave Boyd
46. “Cutest Couple of Lawyers Whose Names Rhyme” Award- Kelly Pate and Pam Slate
47. “Levi’s” Award– Keith and Teresa Norman (Their good (Levi) genes have produced 4 outstanding children, one of whom is a scholar and an excellent athlete at Lamp.)
48. “If I Were a Carpenter” Award– Tim Roby, Joshua Segall, Nelson Gill, Chuck James, Clint Carter, Clint Daughtrey, McDowell Crook, Kendall Dunson, Bill Espy, Mike Hill. Mark Sabel, Saxon Main, Bill Azar, Todd Brown, Jud Bryan, Dudley Perry, Jr., Kevin Butler, Judge Johnny Hardwick, Jay Tuley, Heath Loftin, Joe Van Heest, Winston Edwards, Chuck Stewart, Dorman Walker, Bubba Walker, Greg Biggs, Robert Ward, Chris Weller, Keith Norman, Walter McKay, and Arthur Ray (No, the lawyer wives of these lawyers would not have had –or have– their babies if they were carpenters.)
49. “Smoothie King (and Queen)” Award– Ellen Brooks, Azzie Taylor, Tabor Novak, Tommy Keene, Marvin Campbell, Don Jones, Wally Walker, Stephanie Billingslea, Cole Portis, Ben Baker, Gerri Grant, Lee Copeland (And other lawyers not named Beasley who can sweet talk a jury)
50. “Terms of Endearment” Award– Josh Mandell (The magazine, *Montgomery’s Best*, said if humility were a person, he would be Josh Mandell)
51. “Monster-in- Law” Award– Phil Butler (This monster of a lawyer is Josh’s father-in-law.)
52. “Goodfellas” Award– Andy Birchfield, David Martin, Karen Laneaux, Robert Huffaker, and Joe Borg (Good lawyers and nice people)
53. “Mean SOB’ Award– Alice Ann Byrne (This year’s toughest litigator)
54. “Carrie Prejean Beauty Queen” Award– Kim Adams and Jamie Johnston (Carrie’s looks, but with brains!)
55. “Everyone Has One” Award– Brenda Smith (But her opinions, as head of the AG’s Opinions Division, actually count)
56. “Dustin Hoffman (Half) Marathon Man” Award– Cheairs Porter (This Assistant AG ran 11th out of 624 runners in Montgomery’s Half-Marathon.)
57. “Wimp” Award–Wallace Mills and Katya Gill (They’re no marathoners, but they ran in Montgomery’s 5K race and did better than you would have.)
58. “Also Ran” Award–Branch Kloess, Kim Fehl, and Yvonne Saxon (They also ran in, and completed, the Half-Marathon in respectable times.)

59. "Obama Nobel Peace Prize" Award– Chip Nix (Like President Obama, Chip just began mediating disputes, but has great promise.)
60. "Silence is Golden" Award– Kelly Pate, Louis Calligas, Bill Robertson, Tripp Vickers, Mark Moody, Neah Mitchell, and Trisha Romano (With help from Suzanne Duffey, they ran a lucrative Silent Auction at the Annual MCBA Charity Event.)
61. "Paul Simon's Mother and Child Reunion" Award– Kathy Brown, Judy Barganier, Diane Paris, John Henig, Floyd Minor, Johnnie Smith, Larry Sasser, Jim Hamlett, Dixie Torbert, John Olszewski, Roianne Conner, Valerie Smedley, Josh James, Beverly Howard, George Beck, Jim Cooper, Danny Fazekas, Jan Grant, Jim Hampton, Juliana Taylor, Kathryn Dickey, Pate Debardeleben, Donna Bland, Scott Johnson, Bob Beno, and Nickie Rothschild (Is only a motion away when these domestic lawyers are involved.)
62. "Girls Just Want to Have Fun" Award– Joana Ellis (For her birthday, she partied in Key Biscayne, drinking red wine, shopping, and admiring Cabana boys.)
63. "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button" Award– Charlie Stakely and Joe Espy (The older I get, the younger they look.)
64. "Barack" Award– Pat Sefton (This former president of the SGA at Auburn had a great year as president of the Montgomery County Bar– raising over \$100,000 for charitable causes and leading us to the Local Bar Award presented by the State Bar.)
65. "Most Powerful Couple (of Lawyers)" Award– Leura and Bill Canary (Between leading the Business Council and the U.S. Attorney's office, this lawyer couple is too powerful to mess with.)
66. "Hail Fellows" Award– Lee Copeland, Greg Allen, Laura Crum, Bob Esdale, Lewis Gillis, and Judge Gene Reese (Elected this year to fellowship in the Alabama Law Foundation.)
67. "Mount Cody" Award– Russell Duraski (This fine lawyer and person has a mountain bigger than the Tide's Mt. Cody to climb in his race for DA against Ellen Brooks.)
68. "The Twilight Zone" Award– Red Bell, Walter Byars, George Azar (And other actively practicing lawyers who are redefining the Twilight Zones of lawyers' careers.)
69. "Dancing with the Stars" Award– Dennis Bailey, Graham Esdale, William Haynes, and Frank Stakely (All were admitted this year to the American Board of Trial Advocates– an honorary group of plaintiff and defendant trial lawyers.)
70. "Family Guy" Award– Christine Freeman (This excellent Director of the Federal Defenders program has also over the years been a terrific foster parent.)
71. "Caesar's Husband" Award– Dorman Walker (He has to behave because his wife, Judge Susan Walker, is Chief United States Magistrate Judge.)
72. "Virtuosity" Award– Daryl Bailey (Patience, i.e., waiting for Ellen to retire, is not the only virtue of this DA in waiting– Montgomery's Chief Deputy was named Alabama's Assistant DA of the year.)
73. "Eulogy" Award– Scott Green (In nominating his co-worker for Assistant DA of the Year, Scott talked better about Daryl than most folks get talked about at their funerals.)
74. "The Day the Earth Stood Still" Award– David Martin and Will Parker (They handled the line item veto case in which the heavily Republican Alabama Supreme Court voted 9-0 against the Republican Governor.)
75. "Thank G-d for South Carolina" Award– Richard Allen and Vernon Barnett (Corrections Commissioner, taking a stand for justice and equality, and likely with advice from Vernon, stopped barring inmates with HIV from work release programs– Alabama became the last State in the union, other than S.C., to lift the bar.)
76. "Ecstasy" Award– Richard White and Julian McPhillips (They were ecstatic when their capital murder defendant was convicted of possession of exstasy and got a mistrial on capital murder.)
77. "Birds of a Feather" Award– Troy Massey and Lewis Gillis (Hosted "Jazz on the Lake" for their fraternity, the Phi Boule Chapter of Sigma Pi Phi. Some of the birds were Judges Price, McPherson, and Boyd.)

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78. "Home is Where the Heart Is" Award– Tom Methvin, Bowdy Brown, and Linda Lund (Recognizing that home is the heart of every family, Tom chaired, Bowdy served on, and Linda staffed, the State Bar's Task Force designed to recruit lawyers to assist consumers with foreclosure issues.)
79. "Behind Every Great Woman, There's a Lawyer" Award– Bill Coleman and Bob Northcutt (Their wives, Dee and Karen, co-chaired, again, the highly successful Vintage Affair to benefit the American Cancer Society.)
80. "A Family that Runs Together Stays Together" Award– Katie and Saxon Main (Or drifts apart as the Mains did in Montgomery's Half-Marathon– Katie finished 63 spots ahead of Saxon.)
81. "Back Pack" Award– David Flack (David finished in back of the pack running the Half-Marathon– dead last among male runners, But he finished– good job!)
82. "Rat Pack" Award– Judge Bill Gordon, Jimmy Hawthorne, Lanier Branch, Spud Seale, Tabor Novak, Bill Coleman, Charlie Paterson, and John Henig (These veteran lawyers hang out together-mostly on the golf course.)
83. "Brat Pack" Award– Royal Dumas, Tim Gallagher, James Eubank, Clint Graves, Thomas Govan, Mike Hill, Michael Dalton, and Allen Sheehan (These young lawyers hang out together-mostly playing poker and drinking adult beverages.)
84. "Gomorrah" Award– William Gill (Wrote a letter to the *Advertiser* saying adoption of children by homosexuals is "morally bankrupt and perverted.")
85. "Field of Dreams" Award– Morris Dees (After being inducted into the Lawyers Hall of Fame by the Litigation Counsel of America, Morris received an honorary degree from San Francisco State University along with legendary baseball great Willie Mays.)
86. "Donald Trump" Entrepreneurship Award– Greg Allen and Jere Beasley (These two reputedly anti-business lawyers have joined forces with Montgomery's business community in developing the Alley property in downtown Montgomery.)
87. "Big Foot" Award– Joe Hubbard (This president of Montgomery Young Democrats is an outstanding candidate for the State House– following in the very large public service footprint of his great-grandfather, Sen. Lister Hill, and his grandfather Judge John Godbold.)
88. "Wild Bill" Award– James Anderson, Charlie Anderson, Chip Nix, and Mike Brock (These wild lawyers are past winners of the prestigious award memorializing Wild Bill Hickock's first cousin, Jimmy Hitchcock– and Charlie's son won it this year!!)
89. "Joe Biden" Award– David Martin ( David was VP of the Jimmy Hitchcock Award and Chair of its annual Banquet. I predict he'll be next year's President.)
90. "Horse and Carriage" Award– Billy Addison and Alyce Robertson, and Quin Evans and Joshua Segall (Love and marriage go together like a horse and carriage– they got married this year–to each other.)
91. "Alice in Marriage Land" Award– Alice Maples (Alice, like Alyce, stepped into the wonderland world of marriage this year.)
92. "One is a Lonely Number" Award– Chief Justice Sue Bell Cobb (Serving as the only Democrat on the Supreme Court, she chose to remain Chief Justice and to sacrifice her opportunity to run a winnable race for Governor.)
93. "Tom Terrific" Award– Tommy Keene, Tommy Goggans, Tommy Lawson, and Tom Methvin (Excellent lawyers named Tom)
94. "Tommy Gun" Award– Tommy Gallion and Tommy Mancuso (Most volatile lawyers named Tommy– also excellent)
95. "Atticus Finch" Award– Larry Gardella, Jim Smith, Betty Nolan, Debra Hansen, Carl Salle, and other LSA lawyers (They sacrifice material rewards to represent the least of these.)
96. "Queen for a Day (or so)" Award– Joan Davis (Named Interim Chancellor of Post Secondary Education upon Bradley Byrne's resignation– and was a calming influence.)
97. "Nightmare on Elm Street" Award– Bobby Poundstone, Judge Jimmy Pool, Wally Walker, Frank Hawthorne, Corky Hawthorne, Les Hayes, Rhon Jones, Joel Connally, Joe Seawell Moore, Gunter Guy, David Martin, Jim Williams, Beverly Howard, Clay Crenshaw, and Cole Portis (What once looked like a nightmare at Toomer's Corner has become, at worst, pleasant mediocrity for these Auburn dreamers.)



98. “Here Comes the Sun” Award– Judge Gene Reese and Richard Allen (Judge’s ruling that Richard had to hand over, and let the sun shine on, Dept. of Corrections inmate records, including those related to one who dies in custody, was affirmed by the Alabama Supreme Court.)
99. “The Feds Are Coming!” Award–Judges Wallace Capel and Terry Moorer (These U.S. Magistrate Judges have taken over the Hugh Maddox Inn of Court—they are respectively the new president and president-elect.)
100. “The Supremacy Clause” Award–Austin Huffaker, Terrie Biggs, Kelly Pate, and Matt Bledsoe (These Federal Bar Association officers maintain that federal preemption precludes the Montgomery County Bar from scheduling any events that conflict with Federal Bar activities.)
101. “Déjà Vu” Award– Paul Clark and Pat Sefton (Paul will be as great a President for our Bar as Pat has been.)
102. “Octomom” Award– Suzanne Duffey (The Mother of all Montgomery Lawyers )
103. “Father of the Bride” Award– Jim Edwards, Fred Tyson, Mark Montiel, Nick Parnell, Henry Barnett, Mike Beers (And other lawyers who walked down the aisle with tears in their eyes this year)
104. “Husband of the Bride” Award– Fred Enslin and Kent Garrett (They got married this year, but not to each other.)
105. “Fiancé of the Bride (to be)” Award– Bill Ashley (He got engaged in October.)
106. “Rush (Limbaugh) to Judgment” Award– Mark Montiel (With the retirement of Don Markwell, Mark has become Montgomery’s Rush Limbaugh– sometimes drawing conclusions quicker than he did as a judge.)
107. “Got to Get You Into My (baby’s) Life” Award– Mary Pat Crook and Alyce Robertson Addison (Mary Pat did Alyce the high honor of asking her to be godmother of her and McDowell’s baby.)
108. “Most Likely to Be Promoted” Award– Chris Smith and Rick Neal (Chris asked his boss at Hyundai, General Counsel Rick Neal, to be the godfather of his baby.)
109. “Sentimental Fool” Award– Trey Granger (Montgomery County Director of Elections, when offered the same position in Georgia for much more money, said I am not willing to trade the wonderful aspects of this county for an opportunity somewhere else.)
110. “It’s a Wonderful Life” Award– Hendon Blaylock and Judge Charles Coody (Their marriage this year proved there’s always hope for happiness.)
111. “You’re the One” Award– Chris Weller (In an *Alabama Voices* column trashing the Stimulus package, Chris asked “Is it me or have Americans lost their collective minds?”)
112. “V is for VOW! (i.e. Wow with a Yiddish accent)” Award- (Former Judge) Vanzetta McPherson (The subjects of her excellent, erudite, and often biting columns included this year “warmed over” African American leaders in Montgomery and Birmingham, and those who vilify President Obama because African Americans “just can’t say enough, do enough, or be enough.”)
113. “V is for Vindication” Award– Judge Joel Dubina (Summary judgment against his, and Probate Judge Reese McKinney’s, LLC in lawsuit over property it sold for the Hyundai plant was reversed on appeal.)
114. “What the Doctor Ordered” Award– Chief Justice Sue Bell Cobb (The Chief read Dr. Seuss to Montgomery Kindergarten children during Read Across America week.)
115. “Runaway Fiancé” Award– Joe Seawell Moore (If he doesn’t quickly ask his girlfriend of 5 years to marry him, she will be soon running away.)
116. “Michael Moore Sicko” Award– Richard Cohen (Southern Poverty Law Center President wrote in the *Huffington Post* that Lou Dobbs’ “birther” beliefs challenging Obama’s citizenship are so Sicko that CNN should take him off the air—Dobbs quit!)
117. “A Tie is Like Kissing Your (Beautiful Step) Sister” Award– Don Jones ( He was delighted to tie Beasley, i.e., get a hung jury, in a fraud lawsuit by the State against a drug manufacturer.)

## The Docket

118. “Tina Fey” Award– Lynn Thrower (After Lynn lost an appeal of case reinstating a teacher fired for teaching classes in which he was a student, and giving himself mostly A’s, Lynn’s boss at Post Secondary said the Fair Dismissal Act was like a Saturday Night Live skit.)
119. “Cheaper by the Dozen” Award– Justice Patti Smith (One of 14 children)
120. “Toxic Assets” Award– Rob Reynolds, Mark Chambless, Richard Moxley, and Nick Parnell (Toxic, upside-down, assets have made their collection practices more difficult.)
121. “Keith Olbermann Mission Accomplished” Award– Von Memory (1237 days of active practice since Von announced his retirement.)
122. “Every Man (and Woman) For Himself” Award– Frank Wilson, Tommy Goggans, Jeff Duffey, Susan James, Joshua James, Bill Blanchard, Diane Paris, Kathy Brown, and other solo practitioners (Some of Montgomery’s best lawyers fly solo and without flying over their destinations like Northwest pilots sometimes do.)
123. “One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest” Award– Judge Mark Anderson and Phillip Davis (At the celebration of Jefferson Davis’ birthday, Mark said Jeff Davis, not Lincoln, was our 16th president, and Phillip said the federal government is not our sovereign.)
124. “Running to Run Again” Award– Kathy Brown and Calvin Williams (Running against each other in order to run again against Judge Will O’Rear for Domestic Circuit Court Bench)
125. “William Randolph Hearst” Award– Austin Huffaker (As president of the Federal Bar Association this year, Austin introduced the chapter’s first newsletter of which he is the pioneering publisher.)
126. “Balloon Boy Mama” Award– Jamie Durham (As president of the theatrical Capri Community Film Society, she can act out a 9-1-1 call as well as the mother of the Balloon Boy.)
127. “Tiger Woods” Award– David Bronner (David was named golfing all-star by *Golf Digest*, along with Tiger, Lee Trevino, Fred Couples, and other actual golfers.)
128. “David Bronner” Award– Pete Cobb (Pete promoted golf– just like he was the Golf Hall of Famer himself– by chairing the Montgomery Country Club Invitational Tournament.)
129. “Bonus Baby” Award– Mike Brock (This walk-on, All SEC football player at Alabama has been recruited to become Chief National Litigation Lawyer for drug cases by Covington and Burling in D.C.)
130. “Robin” Award– Chad Morriss (Chad is leaving Rushton Stakely to play Robin to Mike Brock’s Batman— although thankfully, Chad will remain in Montgomery.)
131. “Alligators” Award– David Byrne, Jr. (As general counsel for Colonial Bank Group, David spent this year up to his behind in alligators.)
132. “Dexter” Award– Frank Hawthorne and Randy Meyer (These nice guys are like serial killers in the courtroom.)
133. “Ed McMahon” Award– Ed Patterson (The State Bar’s second banana does a fabulous television commercial for MAX Credit Union.)
134. “Best Young (and relatively young) Legal Writers” Award– Flynn Mozingo, Shannon Holliday, David Martin, Susan Kennedy, Quin Segall, Kelly Pate, Pam Slate, Will Parker, Jamie Hill, and Angie Rogers (These folks write great briefs.)
135. “Every Man (and Woman) Has His Price” Award– Joe Espy, Tabor Novak, Robert Sasser, John Henig, John Bolton, Bill Coleman, Bobo Gilpin, Richard Gill, Lewis Gillis, Dave Boyd, Palmer Smith, Charlie Paterson, Helen Wells, and Floyd Minor (For these folks the price , i.e., the hourly rate, is quite high.)
136. “VIP” Award– John Bolton and Charlanna Spencer (They represent Victory Land in a lawsuit alleging that a bingo machine was rigged so that Larry Langford could win— John denied the claim, saying Langford was treated no differently than other VIPs.)

137. “Robin Hood” Award– Shannon Holliday (Successfully, so far, fought the State Conservation Dept. and Auburn University’s effort to build a luxury hotel only the rich could afford at the Gulf State Park.)
138. “The Incredible Hulk” Award– Jere Beasley (Despite the State Supreme Court’s Medicaid -drug company ruling, Beasley’s muscle in these cases resulted in over \$38 million going to the general fund and over \$20 million to the Feds for Medicaid– with a little left over for the lawyers.)
139. “Principal Rules” Award– Frank Snowden (Represented the principal of Brew Tech who was acquitted of harassing one of his teachers.)
140. “Kill Bill” Award– William Dill, Pamela Stacy, and Don Jones (Don defended a capital murder defendant through two hung juries and this year’s conviction of non-capital, felony murder to kill Bill’s and Pamela’s capital punishment hopes.)
141. “Meet the Parents” Award– Jerry Blevins, Spud Seale, and Jayne Williams (Jerry and his wife sued the Elmore County School Board for refusing to allow their children to avoid Swine Flu by doing their school work at home– Spud and Jayne successfully defended.)
142. “All That Jazz” Award– Don Jackson (This jazzy sports lawyer is also passionate about Jazz.)
143. “He Got Game” Award– Les Pittman (First Montgomery lawyer finisher in Jubilee 8K race.)
144. “Rain On My (Golf Tournament) Parade” Award– Wayne Sabel (In suing Prattville for sexual harassment of a police department employee, Wayne questioned whether the women of the LPGA would come to Prattville if they knew how little respect Prattville had for women.)
145. “King of the Hill, Hill” Award– David Henderson (Managing partner of Hill, Hill– a relatively new lawyer made a swift rise to top of the Hill.)
146. “Early to Bed” Award– Robert Huffaker and Jeff Blitz (These very wise lawyers go to sleep at night before most folks eat dinner.)
147. “Everyone Gets Their Just Desserts” Award– Ben Espy ( In addition to being an excellent lawyer, he’s a chef who makes for his friends the desserts they deserve.)
148. “Frying Pan” Award– Judge Jim Main (Escaped from the Finance Director Fire surrounding Paragon into the simmering Frying pan of the Judiciary.)
149. “Bite vs. Bark” Award– Greg Allen, Wendell Cauley, Robert Huffaker, Doyle Fuller, Winston Sheehan, Erica Tatum, Mike Crow, Randall Morgan, Jim Hamlett, Pam Slate, Alex Holtsford, Mark Englehardt, and Stan Gregory (These kinda low key lawyers, all very effective in their law work, have a bite that’s a lot worse than their bark.)
150. “Bark and Bite” Award– Bob Thorington, Eddie Parker, Mitch Henry, Joe Espy, Joe McCorkle, and Tommy Keene (Their bark and bite are both pretty potent.)
151. “Hey Jude” Award– Judy Bargarner and Judy Van Heest (Montgomery lawyers named Judy)
152. “Hey Dude” Award– John Henig, Bill Coleman, Billy Carter, Shap Ashley, Charlie Paterson, William Gill, Don Jackson, and Judge Bill Gordon (well dressed dudes)
153. “Hey Rude” Award– Will Vines (Deputy DA prosecuted a woman who, posing as a mother looking for a school for her children, stole the teachers’ wallets– very rude)
154. “Second Calling” Award– Judge Keith Watkins (Performs wedding ceremonies so beautifully, he could have been a clergyman)
155. “Eight Days A Week” Award– Alan Rothfelder and Jo Parr (Two very hard working lawyers)
156. “Get Smart” Award– Quin Evans Segall (Her great article on Smart Zoning was published in “For the Defense”, a national publication of the Defense Research Institute.)
157. “Workhorse” Award– Don Bethel, Mike Peterson, and Kevin Butler (Each of these federal defender attorneys, all of whom

also are show horses, first-chaired four trials in 2009.)

158. “All in the Family” Award– Dee Miles, Roger Smith, Ben Baker, and David Byrne, III (Reigning recipients of Beasley Allen internal awards respectively for Litigator of the Year, mass torts, personal injury, and toxic torts)
159. “Alliteration” Award– Kacey Keeton, Alyce Addison, and Ben Baker.
160. “West Side Story” Award– Josh Mandell (This lawyer-developer is helping revitalize the West Fairview area of the City.)
161. “Magnificent Obsession” Award– Walter Byars, Joe Espy, Oakley Melton, and Flynn Mozingo (Walter stubbornly insisted Home Depot and Wal-Mart on Chantilly were unlawfully annexed by Pike Road, and with great help from Melton, Espy, and Mozingo, he has so far been proven right.)
162. “The Parent Trap” Award– Mark Sabel, Julia Beasley, Patrick Hale, Austin Huffaker, Matt Parnell, Wade Hartley, Greg Poole, Craig Allred, Nelson Gill, Ben Espy, Evans Bailey, Evans Britton, Ben and Bill Espy and a bunch of other young lawyers practicing with a parent)
163. “One Life to Live” Award– Malcolm Carmichael, Al Scott, and Fred Tyson (And then you die– Malcolm was an original founder of Hospice in Montgomery, and Al and Fred serve on its Board.)
164. “Google” Award– Scott McArdle (He is a fountain of information.)
165. “Yellow Submarine” Award– Dave Boyd, Robin Laurie, Kelly Pate, and Will Gunter (Their efforts salvaged the statute banning big boats —and likely yellow submarines— from certain Alabama lakes.)
166. “Most Dopey Logic” Award– Joe Reed, Jr. (In seeking to recover \$120,000 in cash seized from his clients at the airport, Joe said not all businesses use credit cards, and not all people use banks– Right, especially if their business is dope.)
167. “Going Rogue” Award– Jamie Johnston, Jacob Dubin, Matthew Shaddrix, Heath Loftin, and others who left one legal employment for another during the year.
168. “Hard Hat” Award– Kevin Butler (This outstanding criminal defense lawyer led Federal Defender Program’s renovation of new office space.)
169. “Law as a Second Career” Award– Diane Paris and Peyton Faulk- (These fine lawyers were a social worker and a teacher before going to law school.)
170. “We Are Family” Award– Jim Vickrey (This outstanding Professor of Rhetoric re-activated his law license for the sole purpose of defending his son on a failure to yield right of way traffic ticket.)
171. “The Golden Compass” Award– Jeffrey Baker (The compass for the public service of this Jones Law School Clinic Director is the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and Jeff this year became a recipient of a King Spirit Award.)
172. “Oops” Award– Verne Speirs (Assistant U.S. Attorney handled a case in which U.S. Supreme Court held that evidence obtained illegally or without a proper warrant as a result of a policeman’s Simple Mistake will not be excluded under the 4th Amendment.)
173. “Gentlemen’s (dis)Agreement” Award– Don Nolte and Jeff Barganier (Jeff wrote a newspaper column opining that President Obama will lead the U.S. to resemble at best the Weimar Republic, and at worst Zimbabwe, and, in responding, Don implied, with exaggerated civility, that Jeff is in an idiot.)
174. “George Will” Award– Greg Griffin (As a “Troy King Republican”, Greg wrote enough letters to the editor to qualify as a conservative columnist—one letter said even in terrible economic times, we should count our blessings. Many poor folks will not have high to count.)
175. “The Mamas and Papas” Award– Emily and Rick Marks (Had a beautiful baby this year)
176. “Bryan Stevenson Capital Lawyer” Award– Richard Keith (While serving as president of the Alabama Criminal Defense Lawyers Association, Richard spoke to his members on how to tighten the defense of capital cases.)

177. “Minuteman” Award– John Kachelman (He won a conviction for robbery after a 5 minute jury deliberation– Judge Reese didn’t have time to take off his robe.)
178. “Most Likely to Attend a Town Hall Meeting” Award– Greg Davis (After the Court of Civil Appeals held that family members of a Mexican killed while legally on the job in Alabama was entitled to no Workers Comp death benefit because they lived in Mexico, an outraged Greg called on the legislature to change the law.)
179. “Bloodied but Unbowed” Award– Troy Massey (After the Alabama Supreme Court ruled against his client’s challenge to the Governor’s appointments to the Alabama A&M Board, Troy said the battle is not over— these guys still have to be confirmed by the Alabama Senate.)
180. “Apple and Tree” Award– William Dill, Andrew Arrington, Jeff Duffey, Susan James, and Frank Snowden (William and Andrew prosecuted, and Jeff, Susan, and Frank defended, the son of a drug dealing gangster, Leon Carmichael, on a capital murder charge– convicted but sentenced to life without parole.)
181. “Better Safe than Sorry” Award– William Gill, Lewis Gillis, and Gerald Brooks (Received a large medical negligence jury award and settled on appeal.)
182. “You Have the Right to Remain Silent” Award– Matthew Shaddrix (A would-be witness in a murder case, who was shown to be lying before she took the stand, was later prosecuted for perjury—Matthew said, “You have the right to remain silent, but if you open your mouth under oath, you’d better tell the truth.”)
183. “Glen Beck Nut Case” Award– Larry Darby (Although Larry has maintained a relatively low profile this year, he wins the award for his lifetime body of work.)
184. “Bill Gates” Award– Judge Tracy McCooey (She and her staff created and designed a new website for the 15th Judicial Circuit, providing information about court programs.)
185. “For Whom the Bell Tolls” Award– John Kachelman, Kevin Davdson, Melissa Rueschoff, Mike Kidd, and Ben Schoettker (Tragically, a 3 year old child died when one adult aiming for another, shot the child. John, Kevin, and Melissa won a conviction for reckless murder despite the outstanding defense efforts of Mike and Ben.)
186. “Resurrection Road” Award– Ham Wilson (Having formerly served in the State Legislature, Ham’s political career has been resurrected by his appointment to the County Commission to fill Todd Strange’s seat.)
187. “B\*|\*N\*G\* O\*” Award– Joe Espy, John Bolton, Dave Boyd, Sim Penton, Lee Copeland, David Martin, Bill Espy, Nelson Gill, Charlanna Spencer, and Carla Gilmore (Bingo is their favorite board, and especially non-board, game.)
188. “Revolutionary Road” Award– James Anderson (Overturned—through a contest– an election by the people for Mayor of Evergreen)
189. “Adam’s Rib” Award– Doyle Fuller and Susan Copeland (They’re not married to each other, but they have a long history of working together beautifully.)
190. “War of the Worlds” Award– Martha Roby and Bobby Bright (Martha is giving up the comfortable world of City politics to wage war against Bobby for the tumultuous world of Congress.)
191. “(Not) As Good as it Gets” Award– Jim Vickrey (In an *Alabama Voices* column, Jim opined that President Obama’s inauguration address was a speech “for the times and not the ages.”)
192. “Welcome Back Kotter” Award– Mary Bauer and Ed Wayland (Former head of the Immigrant Justice Project at Southern Poverty Law Center moved back to Montgomery to become legal director– and she brought consumer lawyer- husband Ed back with her.)
193. “Bret Farve” Award– Jay Lewis (Jay announced over a year ago that he was retiring to some South American country where he is a land baron, but Jay got that old lawyer itch and came back for another season.)

## The Docket

194. "The Carpetbagger" Award– Mark Englehart (This year's president of Inn of Court recently joined a Birmingham law firm, but thankfully, he carpetbags to Birmingham and continues to live in Montgomery.)
195. "In the Eye of the Storm" Award– Mac McArthur (Although as Executive Director of the ASEA Mac successfully fought efforts of State Personnel Board to permit State Departments to furlough employees for up to 29 days a year without pay, his fights with the Personnel Board have become vicious.)
196. "There's No Place Like Home" Award– Jerry Blevins (He's challenging a statute that requires him, as a candidate for judge in the 19th Circuit, to live in a designated county– and Jerry doesn't want to live anywhere but his present home.)
197. "Schizophrenia" Award– Troy King (Hired Bradley Arant to respond to subpoena in federal investigation of Troy, even though many believe another Bradley Arant client, Gov. Riley, supports the investigation.)
198. "Star Wars" Award– Tabor Novak and Jere Beasley (These courtroom stars battled it out in a Medicaid drug case– Beasley won a jury verdict, but it's almost certain to be set aside.)
199. "When We Were Young" Award– Justice Hugh Maddox (Attended Bobby "Rubber Ball" Rydell concert at the Davis Center for the Performing Arts.)
200. "Bingo Queen" Award– Allison Ingram (She was seen socializing at Hospice's Monte Carlo night with Milton McGregor.)
201. "Old Dog, New Tricks" Award– Randy Moore (Long time Montgomery lawyer ran a very tasteful television ad.)
202. "Golden Rule" Award– Ellen Brooks (Received recognition as Volunteer of the Year at the celebration of the Book of Golden Deeds.)
203. "Larry Langford Blame It on Rio" Award– Allison Neal and Faith Cooper (Received judgment against landlord for sexually harassing tenants– the landlord blamed the judgment on his lawyer and on everyone else besides himself.)
204. "Let's Get Physical" Award– Judge Pamela Higgins (Threatened physically by the mother of a man for whom, according to the mother, Judge Higgins had set too high a bond.)
205. "James Bond Quantum of Solace" Award– Bruce Maddox (Former prosecutor sought release from prison of man he prosecuted, and who had served 29 years, for stealing a tool box.)
206. "Living the Dream" Award– Branch Kloess (Living the dream through his son who signed with the Chicago White Sox and pitched this year for a minor league team in Montana.)
207. "Family Feud" Award– Gary Williford (Represented a deputy Sheriff who was enjoined to stay away from his white daughter and her African-American boyfriend after the Deputy ordered a raid on his daughter's home during which the boyfriend was beaten up.)
208. "Socrates" Award– John Pollard (John carried the Socratic method to new heights by entering and winning a national philosophy contest where the question was "Is it ever wrong to do the right thing?"– He won the award as America's Greatest Thinker.)
209. "Going for the Gold" Award– Doug McElvy and Judge Kelli Wise (If as foretold, Justice Patti Smith does not run for re-election, these two may compete for the Republican nomination.)
210. "Light My Fire" Award– Terry Brown (Terry wrote an Alabama Voices column urging the school board to light up education in Montgomery County by emulating the LAMP Model.)
211. "Battle Cry" Award– Don Valeska (This Vietnam War veteran and longtime prosecutor expressed his outrage in a newspaper letter about the way Robert McNamara conducted battles in the Vietnam War.)
212. "Star Spangled Banner" Award– George Schrader (George is a founder, and active promoter, of a State Bar program providing legal services at a discount to the military.)
213. "Jim Dandy To the Rescue" Award– Richard Gill, Wally Walker, Doyle Fuller, Susan Copeland, and Marc Reynolds ( Richard and Wally, and Doyle and Susan, have filed separate lawsuits over losses incurred by the PACT program, while Marc is trying

to salvage the program.)

214. "Combo" Award– Cole Portis and Ben Baker (They received a large verdict in a case where death was caused by a speeding logging truck with bad brakes– a bad combination.)
215. "Bound for Glory" Award– David Hughes and Michael Fritz (David left Kaufman Gilpin and Michael left the Middle District Bankruptcy Administrator's office to join forces in a new and promising bankruptcy firm.)
216. "Heroes" Award– Christy Hayes (New staff attorney for the City of Montgomery spends many hours speaking to our city's youth and says Fred Gray and Thurgood Marshall are her inspiration.)
217. "Truth is Stranger than Fiction" Award– Juraldine Battle-Hodge and Kevin Davidson (Juraldine's client pled guilty to murder because his Co-Robber was shot and killed by the victim! Kevin prosecuted.)
218. "The Big Easy (Credit )" Award– Shay Farley (Legal director of Appleseed ran a summit on predatory lending– fighting high interest rates on loans to the poor.)
219. "Bruce Springsteen The Boss" Award– Mary Helner and Mark Sabel (Now that Mary has ascended to Administrative Law Judge for Social Security, there is little question but that she is the boss of lawyer-husband Mark.)
220. "Bleeding Heart" Award– Aimee Cobb Smith (Without any compensation, she sought parole for a woman convicted of man slaughter for the death of a 2 year old in a drunk driving accident- Aimee thought that after 2 years in prison the woman could contribute to society- Denied.)
221. "The Great Race" Award– Les Pittman, Gunter Guy, Jim Byram, and Monet Gaines (Four great candidates waged a spirited competition for election to the State Bar Commission with Les winning by a nose– perhaps a Pinocchio nose, but still a nose.)
222. "James Carville" Award– Peck Fox (The brains behind many political campaigns.)
223. "Ansel Adams" Award– Inge Hill (Inge is the official photographer for his firm's annual Honey Hill retreat– some veteran partners are less than pleased with his bent for close-ups.)
224. "Teacher" Award–Pat Mahaney (He's in charge of, and has conducted, a ton of CLE seminars for the Montgomery Bar.)
225. "Teacher's Pet" Award -Bill Patty, Theron Stokes, and Monica Arrington (They represent teachers all over the state.)
226. "Davy Crockett" Award– Bowen Hill and Mike Cohan (The best lawyer marksmen at Hill, Hill with aspirations well beyond their firm)
227. "Doubting Thomas" Award– Judge Randy Thomas (There's no doubting Judge Thomas is a great mediator.)
228. "What Women (Lawyers) Want" Award– Jimmy McLemore, Kendall Dunson, Matthew Shaddrix, Peyton Chapman, Judge Gene Reese, Matt Beam, Jay Aughtman, Jimmy Walter, Judge Myron Thompson, Bill Robertson, Josh James, David Vickers, Lewis Gillis, Grant Sexton, and Cole Portis (Good looking guy lawyers and judges)
229. "Most Public Interest-Minded (Married ) Couple (of lawyers)" Award– Alicia D'Addario and Sam Brooke (Alicia is with EJI, and Sam is with SPLC.)
230. "Justice" Award– Judge Harold Albritton (For another year, he brought Justice to Tuscaloosa– this time, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas.)
231. "Tough Love" Award– Sonny Reagan (Governor's Deputy Legal Counsel told Dothan developers and their suppliers that a project promoting country music would be wonderful, but any electronic bingo machines would be seized.)
232. "High Society" Award– Fairley McDonald, Mark Wilkerson, Mark Davis, and Robin Laurie (Their daughters made their social debuts this year.)
233. "The More the Merrier" Award– George Parker and George Harris (Announced Bradley Arant's merger with a large Tennessee firm, making Bradley the largest firm in Alabama– I thought it already was.)

## The Docket

- 234. "Do You Want to Know a Secret" Award- Colonel Bryan Morgan (Don't ask Bryan- he has the highest security clearance because he doesn't tell secrets.)
- 235. "Splendor in the Grass" Award- Judge Johnny Hardwick, Guy Holton, Cameron McEwen, and LaBarron Boone (Hitting an inordinate number of fairways for their skill level and reaching the lovely grass of the greens roughly in regulation, they won the golf scramble at our annual Bench and Bar conference.)
- 236. "Damascus" Award- Alva Lambert and Steve Dodd (They grew up Auburn fans, but as young adults they saw the light.)
- 237. "Gee, We're Going to Miss You" Award (1)- Ed Azar, Morris Burkett, Tom Fitzpatrick, Bob Lamar, Henry Leslie, Albert Roemer, Warren Goodwyn, Turner Seale, Maury Smith, and Chuck Volz, Jr.

(1)The title of this award comes from a song memorializing Buddy Holly, Richie Valens, and the Big Bopper written shortly after their deaths in a plane crash in 1959. The song is about their transformation into three new stars in the sky. The principal lyric in the song is "Gee,we're going to miss you. Everybody sends their love."

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## MCBA YLS NEWS – ATTENTION YOUNG LAWYERS: MARK YOUR CALENDARS

The Montgomery County Bar Association's Young Lawyers Section (MCBA YLS) is planning its first annual meeting and social for 2010, and we hope all members will be sure and make plans to attend this exciting event. Specifically, on Thursday, February 11, 2010, the YLS will have its first annual meeting and social after work at the new Alley Station ballroom located in the new alley downtown (above Saza).

This will be a fun and informative event for all young lawyers as the YLS will have a brief meeting for all YL's to attend where we will cover several topics including the state of the YLS, and also 2010's upcoming events such as our annual Braves trip, our annual charity golf tournament and other items such as our bi-monthly socials. Additionally, the YLS's bi-annual elections will take place in September 2010, so we will be addressing that topic at the meeting as well. After the brief meeting, there will be live entertainment as well as food and refreshments. Additional details will be provided as the event approaches.

This will be an excellent opportunity for you as a member of the YLS to learn more about what we have done in the past, and also what we plan to do for the upcoming year. It will also be a great opportunity for you to add any insight, thoughts or possible ideas on future or past YLS events, including but not limited to our social and/or charitable events.

As is the case with any organization, the YLS benefits tremendously from your input, attendance and most importantly, your involvement. Therefore, I hope all MCBA young lawyers will make plans to attend this event to help our organization get started in the right direction for 2010. If you have any questions, please contact any of the YLS officers, specifically: YLS President, Bill Robertson ([bill.robertson@beasleyallen.com](mailto:bill.robertson@beasleyallen.com)), YLS Vice-President, Louis Calligas ([lcalligas@balch.com](mailto:lcalligas@balch.com)) or YLS Secretary/Treasurer, Megan McCarthy ([mmccarthy@nixholtsford.com](mailto:mmccarthy@nixholtsford.com)). We hope to see you on February 11<sup>th</sup>.



Bill Robertson, President,  
MCBA Young Lawyers Section



## Notice to Montgomery County Bar Members

Any member of the MCBA who plans to run for Secretary/Treasurer, or for the two positions on the Board of Directors for the 2010 term must submit a letter of intent to run on or prior to December 14, 2009. **Any candidate for Secretary/Treasurer must first serve on the Board of Directors.**

1. The Letter should be addressed to:

Kendall Dunson, MCBA Secretary/Treasurer  
Beasley, Allen, Crow, Methvin, Crow, Portis, and Miles, P.C.  
P.O. Box 4160  
Montgomery, AL 36103-4160

2. A copy of the letter of intent to run and short biography and photograph must be sent to:

Suzanne B. Duffey, Executive Director  
Montgomery County Bar Association  
P.O. Box 72  
Montgomery, AL 36101-0072

*For additional information, call Suzanne Duffey at 265-4793.*



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Suzanne B. Duffey,  
Executive Director

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*The Docket*

## WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

We are pleased to announce these new members who have joined MCBA this fall.

James Beck—Hill, Hill, Carter, Franco, Cole, and Black, P.C.

Henry C. Chappell— Henry C. Chappell, LLC

John R. Davis—

Melissa Isaak— Carmichael Isaak, LLP

Hamilton Robert Johnston— AL Secretary of State's Office

Tammy Jones— Juvenile Probation Office, Autauga County

Katherine Luders— Chambless, Math, and Carr, P.C.

Karen Lynn Materna— Karen Materna, Attorney at Law

Brenda McCann— Brenda McCann, Attorney at Law

Christy Olinger— Parnell and Crum, P.A.

Michelle Sylvester— AL Dept. of Post-Secondary Education

Barry White— Law Office of Barry White

## Pro Bono Clinic continued



Volunteers assisting citizens in need at the First MCBA Pro Bono Clinic at the Montgomery Community Action Agency.



## MALS TO HOLD SILENT AUCTION AT MCBA HOLIDAY PARTY

The Association for Legal Professionals will hold a silent auction at the MCBA Holiday party, with proceeds funding the MALS Education Scholarships. Please visit the silent auction during the party and make a bid on some of the fantastic items, such as a painting of Bear Bryant, nativity scenes, a booze basket, and a goodies basket. Items must be paid for at the party, so be sure to bring some extra cash or your check-book.

## MCBA'S PICTORIAL DIRECTORY ONLINE

If you have not already submitted a photo or had your photo taken for the MCBA pictorial directory on our website, please do so. To have your photo taken, call Suzanne Duffey at 265-4793 to make an appointment. This is a benefit of your membership in MCBA.

## Your Input Is Needed

Plans for CLE seminars for 2010 are already underway. If you have suggestions for topics and/or speakers, or if you would like to volunteer to speak, please contact Suzanne Duffey or Dot Robinson at the MCBA office. We try to plan meaningful CLEs for our members. E-mail us at:

[suzanneduffey@mc-ala.org](mailto:suzanneduffey@mc-ala.org) or [dotrobinson@mc-ala.org](mailto:dotrobinson@mc-ala.org)

265-4793

2009 MCBA Holiday Party  
& Toys for Tots Drive

December 10th

6:30-9:30 p.m.

At

Wynlakes Country Club

RSVP

By December 7.

Call 265-4793

to order your

2 complimentary  
tickets.

Additional tickets  
\$25 each.



Montgomery County Bar Association  
P.O. Box 72  
Montgomery, AL 36101-0072

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[www.mcbar.org](http://www.mcbar.org)

**Special Holiday**

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**By Bobby Segall**

**Who made the list this year?**

