MCBA On the Move
By Kendall Dunson

October was a busy month for the Montgomery County Bar Association. The annual Bench and Bar meeting was a huge success. Keynote speaker Attorney General Luther Strange addressed the attendees with a positive message that the laws of the state of Alabama will be applied without regard to politics. Additionally, judges from the river region offered their perspectives on the current state of the legal profession from the bench. The program was refreshing and informative. Following, the continuing legal education presentations, the annual golf tournament fielded the largest number of participants in recent history. See page 2 for the tournament winners.

Following the Bench and Bar, MCBA celebrated Pro Bono Week from October 23rd to the 29th. The major focus of Pro Bono Week was to increase the number of attorneys participating in the Volunteer Lawyer Program. Participating in the VLP is essential to ensuring equal access to justice for all of our citizens. For our legal system to function as intended, all citizens including those who cannot afford an attorney, must have access to justice. As stewards of the legal system, we have an obligation to participate. To that end, MCBA raffled prizes, including an iPad, to any participating VLP attorney.

As we look towards the remainder of 2011, please calendar the MCBA Holiday Party which will be held on December 15 at Wynlakes. As we do every year, MCBA will collect donations for the Toys for Tots collection. Rendering services to those who need it most has been our goal for this year. Let’s finish this year strongly by making a financial donation or bring a toy to the annual Holiday Party. Toys for Tots is a worthy cause, and the Holiday Party is always an entertaining event with live music, great food and even better company. We look forward to seeing you there!

MCBA President, Kendall Dunson

Thank you, Bench and Bar Sponsors!
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With Mike Winter, MCBA Vice-President, organizing the Bench and Bar Conference and Guy Holton organizing the inaugural charity golf tournament, this year’s Bench and Bar event was quite successful.

The Marriott Prattville Conference Center was the setting for the conference on October 14. There was a sumptuous breakfast buffet sponsored by Beasley Allen prior to the conference. Speakers were Jan Walsh of LocalLawyers.com, Judge Aubry Ford, Judge Tracy McCooy, and Judge Adrian Johnson. Attorney General Luther Strange spoke, also. The keynote speaker was Mark Englehart who spoke about the Federal gambling corruption trial with which he was involved this past summer.

Guy Holton worked tirelessly organizing the golf tournament and enlisting sponsors. It was his idea to make the tournament a fundraiser for a local charity, which in this case, is the Central Alabama Chapter of the American Red Cross.

Jay Taylor, Charles Nelson, Michael Boyle, Trey Godwin, and Gary Balckwell won first place. Second place honors went to Eddie Davis, Bobby Pruitt, John Veres, and Daniel Veres. The third place team was Cowin Knowles, Richard Ball, Richard Broughton, and John Marsh. Kendall Dunson won the “Closest to the Pin” prize, and the Longest Drive” prize went to David Stevens.$1,000 was raised for The Red Cross in this inaugural charity tournament.

We appreciate all the participation in this year’s event and look forward to next year’s tournament.
Member News

The Montgomery County Bar Association is pleased to welcome these new members:

Lindsey W. Clements – Alabama Dept. of Public Safety
Chip Cleveland – Cleveland and Riddle
John Enslen – John E. Enslen, Attorney
Jonathan “Rudy” Hill – Bradley, Arant, Boult, and Cummings
Jim T. “Trey” Norman, III—The Law Offices of Jim T. Norman
Ashley W. Toole—Attorney at Law
Michael White—Michael White, Attorney at Law

Best Lawyers in America has recognized several local attorneys.

Boyd F. Campbell is listed as one of the best in the field of immigration law. Also, The Immigration Law Center, LLC is included in U.S. News & World Report/Best Lawyer’s list of Best Law Firms.


Henry H. Hutchinson of Capell and Howard was named “Montgomery Best Lawyers Corporate Lawyer of the Year”, and M. Courtney Williams, also of Capell and Howard was named “Montgomery Best Lawyers Litigation & Controversy Tax Lawyer of the Year.”

George L. Beck, who recently left Capell & Howard to become the U.S. Attorney for the Middle District of Alabama, was named as “Montgomery Best Lawyers Criminal Defense: Non-White Collar Lawyer of the Year.”

Hill, Hill, Carter, Franco, Cole, & Black announced that W. Inge Hill, Jr. was named as Montgomery’s best real estate lawyer by Best Lawyers.

Because Best Lawyers is based on an exhaustive peer-review survey in which more than 41,00 leading attorneys cast almost 3.9 million votes on the legal abilities of other lawyers in their practice areas, and because lawyers are not required or allowed to pay a fee to be listed, inclusion in Best Lawyers is considered a singular honor.

The Million Dollar Advocates Forum is pleased to announce that Frank M. Wilson has been certified as a member. The Million Dollar Advocates Forum is recognized as one of the most prestigious groups of trial lawyers in the U.S. Membership is limited to attorneys who have won million and multi-million dollar verdicts, awards, and settlements. Fewer than 1% of U.S. lawyers are members.

The Docket

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The Young Lawyers Section of the MCBA held their annual charity golf tournament on July 22 at the Robert Trent Jones Golf Course in Prattville. Kyle Weidman organized the event. Three thousand dollars was raised for the Brantwood Children’s Home in Montgomery.

Pictured are members of the YLS Board, some of the Brantwood Children’s Home Board and staff, and Brantwood Executive Director, Kim Herbert, front right.
MCBA Members Give Time and Expertise to YMCA Youth Judicial

MCBA members are known for their community involvement. For Felicia Long (Haskell Slaughter Young & Gallion) and Charlanna Spencer (Hill, Hill, Carter, Franco, Cole & Black), involvement in the YMCA program is an outgrowth of their involvement in Youth Government as teens. November 12-14 the Annual Youth Trial Competition will take place at the Federal Court House in Montgomery. More than 50 teams from all over the state will be competing. Ms. Spencer is the person who writes the case that all of the students try. The case is a civil trial one year, and a criminal trial the next. Ms. Long has coached individual teams, but she is also one of the advisors to teams from throughout the state. She works with student-attorneys on opening statements, direct examinations, cross examinations, closing arguments, how to enter evidence, and other things that are important to practicing attorneys. Both attorneys say that this type of team activity is fun, while helping participants develop public speaking skills and learning to think on their feet. They also gain an appreciation of the legal system, leading some to choose law for their careers. Volunteers are needed for the sessions on Nov. 12 and 13. If you can give 2 hours to monitor a trial, please contact Felicia Long at fal@hsy.com.

Charlanna Spencer

Felicia Long

2011 Bench and Bar Golf Tournament

Left, the winning team, Gary Blackwell, Jay Taylor, Charles Nelson, Trey Godwin, Michael Boyle.

Top right, Cathy Donohoe, Andy and Aimee Smith, Judge Tracy and Mike McCooey team up.

Lower left, Frank Snowden, Judge Hardwick, Guy Holton, and LaBarron Boone.

Lower right, front row, Richard White and Ron Wise; back row, Clayton Tartt and Larry Sasser.
Happy Thanksgiving!

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Save the date!

MCBA Holiday Party
Dec. 15th, 6:30—9:00 p.m.
Wynlakes Country Club

Montgomery County Bar Association

P.O. Box 72
Montgomery, AL 36101-0072

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Due to space constraints, we cannot list the new members to MCBA in this issue. Watch the December issue for the list of new members.