



FEDERAL BAR ASSOCIATION – DETROIT CHAPTER

704 U.S. COURTHOUSE

DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48226

NEWSLETTER
March 1987

DINNER DANCE RETURNS TO THE LANSDOWNE

By popular demand, this year's Detroit Chapter Dinner Dance on Friday, May 8, 1987 will be held at the Lansdowne Restaurant on the Detroit Riverfront. Those who attended two years ago at the Lansdowne will recall what an excellent location it is for a group of our size. Having said that, it should be noted that tickets will probably go quickly and reservations should be made early.

Reservations may be made by calling Executive Director Esther Munce at 331-5605.

JUDGE THORNTON PORTRAIT CEREMONY

The portrait of the late Judge Thomas P. Thornton by Patricia Hill Burnett has been completed, and Friday, May 29, 1987 has been selected as the date for the unveiling and hanging of the portrait. The ceremony will take place in Room 861, the courtroom where Judge Thornton presided for more than 36 years. A reception will follow. The portrait was made possible by gifts from judicial officers, law firms, individual attorneys and members of the public whose contributions will be acknowledged in the ceremony program which will feature a full-color reproduction of the portrait.

JOHN REED DELIGHTS THE MULTITUDE

Mixing humor and philosophy in almost equal parts, Professor John W. Reed addressed a Detroit Chapter luncheon on Thursday, February 26, 1987. His topic was "Interesting Times." The title, he reminded us, comes from the old Chinese curse: "May you live in interesting times." He went on to say: "These are interesting times; but whether that is a curse depends mostly on you, not on the events. I'm no philosopher, but I suppose I express a kind of existentialism when I say that what happens to us is not what makes the difference. What makes the difference is how we respond to what happens."

Further showing his affinity for Chinese thought, both ancient and modern, Professor Reed spoke of the man who opened his fortune cookie and read the message: "A change for the better will be made against you." In this vein, he discussed three developments in the law which, he said, come under the heading of changes for the better that are being made against the legal profession: tort reform, "the steady, almost unremitting attack on the jury" and increasing emphasis on making the practice of law more businesslike.

No brief summary can begin to do justice to Professor Reed's remarks. If this brief sampler has aroused your interest, you may obtain a copy from "Interesting Times", Federal Bar Association, 704 U.S. Courthouse, Detroit, Michigan 48226.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS AND REMINDERS

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome some of our new members:

Joyce Reynolds	Fred Gibson	John Henke
S. Allen Early III	David Perkins	Daniel Shirey
Elaine Fieldman	Robert Wolcott	Geoffrey Silverman
Kenneth Waldhorn	Frank Kerwin	Stephen Adams
James Walsh	Carol Woodbury	Richard Sirvaitis
James Burns	Brian Gijbers	Stephen Feldman
Mark Miller	Martha Marcero	Gregory Muller
Tracy Hackman	Robert Bick	Margaret Raben
Mark Davis	Gregory Thompson	Richard Seryak

A hearty "Welcome Aboard!" to these new members. We are pleased to count them among our members. As of mid-February, 40 new members have joined our Chapter this season.

A reminder that in order to be a member of the Detroit Chapter, you must be and remain a member of the National Federal Bar Association. Please ensure your annual dues to the National Association are current.

If you have any questions on membership, please contact Membership Committee Co-Chairpersons Mark Brewer (965-3464) or Anthony Adams (224-3420).

DETROIT CHAPTER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The next issue of the Detroit Chapter Newsletter will be the April issue. Material for publication should be sent prior to April 3, 1987 to:

Thea Marie Sankiewicz
Raymond, Rupp, Wienberg,
Stone & Zuckerman, PC
755 West Big Beaver Road
Suite 1900
Troy, Michigan 48084

PRO BONO PANEL NEEDS TRANSFUSIONS

The Pro Bono Assignment Panel for the Eastern District of Michigan is once again in need of new blood at all levels (committee, advisory panel and attorneys willing to take assignments). After more than a year and a half during which time the supply has equaled or exceeded the demand, danger signs are popping up more and more frequently in the form of attorney burn-out and increasing requests to withdraw from the Panel. As has been stated since the very beginning in 1983, the Panel cannot function fairly unless there are enough attorneys so that no one receives more than one, or at the most two, assignments per year. Also needed are experienced pro bono attorneys willing to put in some additional time on the FBA committee which works closely with the District Court committee chaired by Judge Julian Abele Cook, Jr. and the Advisory Panel consisting of attorneys experienced in employment discrimination and prisoner civil rights law who make themselves available to panel attorneys for consultation and guidance at various phases in assigned cases.

If you would be willing to give time and effort in any one of these capacities, please complete the application enclosed in this Newsletter and return it to the Pro Bono Assignment Panel, 704 U.S. Courthouse, Detroit, Michigan 48226. Please indicate whether your primary interest is the committee, advisory panel or panel attorney.

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION GENERAL COUNSEL

The Federal Election Commission is seeking a new General Counsel to direct the agency's enforcement activities and represent and advise the Commission in legal actions brought against it. The Office of General Counsel handles all civil litigation, including several cases which have come before the Supreme Court. The office also drafts, for Commission consideration, regulations and advisory opinions, as well as other legal memoranda interpreting the Federal Election Campaign Act. Applications (SF-171) should provide evidence of legal knowledge, ability and scholarship as well as managerial experience and must be postmarked by March 30, 1987. Write to: Federal Election Commission, 99 E Street, N.W., Office of Personnel, Room 812, Washington, D.C. 20463.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN

PRO BONO ASSIGNMENT PANEL

APPLICATION

FIRM NAME: _____

NAMES OR PARTICIPATING ATTORNEYS:

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

We agree to accept assignment of the following cases:

_____ Prisoner civil rights complaints

_____ Employment discrimination complaints

Set forth any other availability for participation (e.g. acting as expert advisor for participants, providing sample briefs or forms, availability to speak at training seminar):

Set forth any limitations for participation (e.g. conflict of interest, number of cases to be handled per year):

Names and addresses of other attorneys you think might be interested in accepting pro bono assignments: _____

When completed please return to Court Executive John P. Mayer,
704 U.S. Courthouse, 231 W. Lafayette, Detroit, MI 48226.

FBA HOSTS INDIAN LAW AND TAX CONFERENCES

The Indian Law Committee presents the 12th Annual Indian Law Conference at the Hyatt Regency Phoenix, Phoenix, Arizona, April 2-3, 1987.

The Section of Taxation presents its 11th Annual Tax Law Conference, Thursday and Friday, April 16-17, 1987 at the Hyatt Regency Washington Hotel on Capitol Hill, Washington, D.C.

Further information concerning the above conferences may be obtained by writing to Conference Secretary, Federal Bar Association, 1815 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

ICM PRESENTS BATSON WORKSHOP

The Institute for Court Management is presenting a workshop on "Dealing with Racially Motivated Peremptory Challenges" at the Southfield Hilton on Friday, May 15, 1987. In Batson v. Kentucky, the U.S. Supreme Court held that the prosecutors' peremptory challenges of prospective jurors based solely on racial grounds violated the equal protection rights of both the defendant and the excluded jurors. In his dissent, Chief Justice Warren E. Burger recognized that implementation of this decision may present some difficulties and observed, "I join my colleagues in wishing the nation's judges well as they struggle to grasp how to implement today's holding." This workshop is designed to help not only judges but prosecutors and defense attorneys understand what is required by the Batson holding and how it can be implemented. The workshop will be very practical in its orientation. The faculty will include Judge Spurgeon Avakian, Superior Court, Alameda County, California; G. Thomas Munsterman, Director, Center for Jury Studies of the National Center for State Courts; Richard A. Williamson, Vice Dean and Professor of Law, Marshall-Wythe School of Law, College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia. Registration and tuition (received by April 27, 1987) is \$145; after that date tuition is \$160. The fee includes a luncheon, morning and afternoon refreshments, and a workshop notebook and other materials. Further information and an application may be obtained from the Institute for Court Management, 1331 Seventeenth Street, Suite 402, Denver, Colorado 80202; (303) 293-3063.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS - 1987

4/2/87 Executive Board Meeting, Savoyard Club,
 12:15 p.m.

4/9/87 - Trial Advocacy Workshop
4/10/87

5/8/87 Annual Dinner Dance, Lansdowne

5/29/87 Judge Thomas P. Thornton Portrait Dedication Ceremony
 3:00 p.m., Room 861

6/8/87 - New Lawyers' Seminar, Room 115 U.S. Courthouse
6/9/87

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704 U.S. Courthouse
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Mr. John P. Mayer
U.S. District Court
704 Federal Bldg.
Detroit, MI 48226