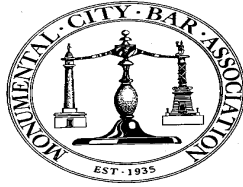


MONUMENTAL CITY BAR ASSOCIATION



MONUMENTAL MINUTES - NOVEMBER EDITION

MONUMENTAL QUOTE OF THE MONTH

How far that little candle throws his beams! So shines a good deed in a weary world.

~ William Shakespeare

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Neil E. Duke

Char-ity (n) 1: benevolent goodwill toward or love of humanity 2: generosity and helpfulness esp. toward the needy or suffering; also given to those in need 3: a gift for public benevolent purposes.

And shall not he render to every man according to his works.

- Proverbs 24:12

Dear Monumental Members:

Last month I announced that one of the goals of our Association for the upcoming year would be to increase our presence in the legal and general community and elevate our status as a significant contributor to worthy causes. This month we begin that noble trek. Under the direction of **Valda Ricks**, Chair - Community Outreach Committee, the Association will initiate its first community-based efforts this month. The charitable clothing

drive is entitled, "Law Suits for the Holidays" (see page 6 for full details). Through your generous donation of (gently) used professional attire, you can make an immediate impact on the lives of the less fortunate.

A second effort will be a "Toys 4 Tykes" toy drive for underprivileged children in December. I will provide further details about that event in the December newsletter.

On behalf of the Association, I extend thanks to those who have pledged their assistance. Together, we can make a difference!

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UPCOMING MONUMENTAL EVENTS

November 4, 2004 - General Membership Meeting

Where: Legal Aid Bureau, 2nd Floor,
500 E. Lexington St.

Who: Featured Guest, **Tara Andrews**, Executive Director of the Maryland Justice Coalition.

Topic: 2005 MJC Legislative Initiatives

December 2, 2004 - General Membership Meeting (tba)

December 17, 2004 - Annual Monumental City Bar Association Holiday Gala: "Celebrating Living History."

Where: The Engineers Club, 11 Mount Vernon Place, Baltimore, Maryland (www.esb.org).

When: 7:45 p.m. to midnight.

Who: Everyone is invited to attend! There will be a special tribute and awards ceremony for retired judges **Solomon Baylor, Roger Brown, Mabel H. Hubbard, and Kenneth L. Johnson**. Prior to the tribute and awards ceremony will be a free screening of acclaimed documentary, *Color at the Bar*.

Cost: Invitations and tickets are available. (\$60 for paid members/\$70 for unpaid members and for tickets purchased after December 2, 2004). If you would like to support the event by

purchasing tickets, please call (410.347.7398) or email the editor, neduke@ober.com. Remember, limited free parking on a first-come, first-serve basis is available for the event at the Walters' Art Museum outdoor parking lot, located next door to the Peabody Court Hotel on Cathedral Street.

Invitation cards with return envelopes for ticket purchases will be mailed to the Membership the week of November 8th. If you do not receive an invitation by November 15th, or if you generally want to ensure that you are included on the mailing list, please contact the editor at (neduke@ober.com).

MONUMENTAL ANNOUNCEMENTS, DISTINCTIONS AND HONORS

Honors Election News

Judge Vicki Ballou-Watts Makes History!

With her election success this week, the Honorable Vicki Ballou-Watts (who was the top vote-getter on the ticket), becomes the first African-American to win a countywide election in the history of Baltimore County.

Judge Ballou-Watts has been recognized by The Daily Record as one of Maryland's Top 100 Women for 2004. She has also been recognized by many organizations including Family & Children's Services of Central Maryland, Delta Sigma Theta, Inc., Baltimore County Alumnae Chapter, and the

Woodlawn-Westview Rotary Club. In 2003, she received the Women in Government Service Award of Excellence from the Maryland Women for Responsive Government. She was also featured in a 2003 Baltimore Sun newspaper series highlighting African-American achievement in Maryland.

Judge Ballou-Watts is active in several professional and civic organizations. She is a faculty instructor for the Maryland State Bar Association (MSBA) professionalism course, a mandatory course for new members of the bar. She has lectured before several professional organizations, including the District Court Judicial Education Conference, the Maryland Trial Lawyers Association and Women in Federal Law Enforcement (WIFLE). In 2001, she co-authored the child custody and visitation portion of the MSBA Select Committee on Gender Equality Report. Recently, the judge was appointed to the Board of Directors for the Maryland Chapter of the National Association of Women Judges. She is also an active member of the Baltimore County Bar Association, and has served as the chair of the Continuing Legal Education and Professionalism Committees.

Judge Ballou-Watts currently serves on the Baltimore County Advisory Board for Family and Children's Services of Central Maryland. She was recently appointed to the 2nd Congressional District Armed Services Academy Nomination Panel by Congressman C. A. Dutch Ruppertsberger. She is a member of the Baltimore County Alumnae

Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and Jack and Jill of America, Inc. for Baltimore County.

In 1980, Judge Ballou-Watts graduated with honors from Howard University. She earned her law degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and began her legal career in 1984 as an associate in the law firm of Gerald A. Smith and Associates in Baltimore. From 1987 to 1999, Judge Ballou-Watts was engaged in the private practice of law, with a concentration in personal injury litigation, family law, contracts, and workers compensation. She also served as legal counsel to the Medical Executive Committee for a local hospital. Before her appointment to the bench, she served on the Board of Governors for the Maryland Trial Lawyers Association. She also served on the Attorney Grievance Commission Inquiry Panel.

Judge Ballou-Watts was born in Montgomery, Alabama, where her mother worked for several years during the 1950's as a personal secretary to the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. She spent her early childhood in Elizabeth City, NC and moved to Charlotte, NC during her high school years. She resides in Reisterstown, Maryland with her husband and three children.

On behalf of Monumental, congratulations on your remarkable achievement!

Honors
Election News

Congratulations are in order to the Honorable **Sylvester B. Cox** and The Honorable **Althea M. Handy** of the Circuit Court for Baltimore City. Both were the top vote-getters in the recent general election!

Moving On Up!
Lias-Booker Joins McGuireWoods LLP as Partner and Head of Commercial Litigation Department

Ava E. Lias-Booker has joined the Baltimore office of McGuireWoods LLP as partner and head of the Baltimore office's Commercial Litigation Department. She will focus her practice on complex and general business and financial disputes in both state and federal courts.

Prior to joining McGuireWoods, Lias-Booker was a partner with Saul Ewing LLP, where she was a member of the litigation department and co-chaired the firm's Diversity Committee.

Robert L. Burrus, Jr., chairman of McGuireWoods LLP, said, "We are excited that Ava has chosen to join McGuireWoods. We also believe there will be strong synergies between Ava's representation of financial institutions in commercial litigation and McGuireWoods' strong position representing large financial institutions in several areas of law." Alan Cason, managing partner of the Baltimore office of McGuireWoods, said, "Ava's joining McGuireWoods is part of our plan for continued

growth in our Baltimore office. She has an outstanding reputation as a lawyer and as a civic leader in Baltimore."

She was named one of Woodward/White's Best Lawyers in America in the area of Business Litigation in 2003-2004 and 2001-2002 and was as one of the Baltimore Business Journal's "Who's Who In Maryland Law" in 1999. Additionally, Lias-Booker was named one of Maryland's "Top 100 Women" by The Daily Record in 1997 and 2003.

She received her law degree from the University of Maryland School of Law, and her bachelor's degree from Duke University.

Moving On Up!
Wayne Curry Lands in Baltimore

Maryland, D.C. and Virginia leaders, including Lt. Gov Michael Steele, Baltimore Mayor Martin O'Malley, Montgomery County Executive Doug Duncan and former Governor of Virginia, Douglas Wilder, gathered at Club One in Baltimore on Wednesday, September 29 to join Judge William (Billy) Murphy, Jr. and Wayne K. Curry, former Prince George's County Executive, to announce that Curry is joining the Murphy Firm. Billy Murphy, known for his visionary practice of law, is creating a unique practice with Curry, geared to providing blue chip corporate clients with strategic and tactical assistance in the burgeoning arena of public/private partnerships. The Murphy Firm recruited Curry to head the one-of-

a-kind partnership venture that brings together law, public policy and deal making because of his impeccable reputation as a savvy business attorney, take-charge County Executive and seasoned business advisor. “Wayne Curry has demonstrated command and credibility as a powerhouse deal maker and strategic thinker throughout his career,” said Billy Murphy.

“The most important deals take place at the intersection of public need, ingenuity, politics, finances and relationships. That’s what we bring to the table for our clients,” Wayne Curry added.

Awards

Congratulations to the Monumental achievements of: the Honorable **Toni E. Clarke**, Prince Georges County Circuit Court; **Larry Gibson**, Shapiro Sher Guinot & Sandler; the Honorable **Elizabeth L. Julian**, Office of the Public Defender; and **Dana Petersen Moore**, Whiteford Taylor & Preston, L.L.P. Our dear colleagues are recipients of the Daily Record’s recently announced “Leadership in Law Award.”

Wedding

Congratulations to Immediate Past President **James Butler**, Esq. and his lovely bride Amanda on their October 9th wedding. The happy couple spent their honeymoon in Aruba.

Wedding

Congratulations to **Charles Curtis**, Esq. and his lovely bride, Celeste on their recent wedding. The happy

couple spent their honeymoon in the Dominican Republic.

Birth Announcement

Congratulations to **Anthony Butler**, Esq. and his wife, on the birth of their brand new baby girl, Avery Butler! Avery weighed 8 lbs and 20 ounces and was 21” tall.

Condolences

Monumental extends its condolences to **Linda L. Mason**, Esq. on the passing of her mother, Willeen Johnson Shields on October 11, 2004. Mother Shields, as she was affectionately known, was the widow of James Carl Shields, Sr. and the daughter of the late Willie and Maggie Johnson. She was born on September 5, 1922.

Mother Shields was a faithful member of Brown’s Memorial Baptist Church, where she served diligently for over fifty years. Mother Shields served as a Deaconess and participated in church organizations such as the Willing Workers, Flower Circle, Adult Sunday School, and the Brown’s Memorial Baptist Church Mass Choir. She will be especially remembered for preparing the communion bread for over fifteen years.

Educated in the Kershaw County, South Carolina Public School System, she moved to Baltimore in her late teens where she met and married James C. Shields, Sr. From that union they were blessed with seven children.

Mother Shields loved her family, friends, neighbors, and church members, so much that her caring and giving spirit touched the lives of everyone she met. On behalf of Monumental, please accept our deepest condolences.

MONUMENTAL COMMITTEES

Young Lawyers' Committee

A look ahead: In the near future, the Young Lawyers' Committee, under the direction of its Chair, **Kenneth June**, Esq., will initiate a membership survey, designed to shape the content of an anticipated symposium in 2005 for young African-American lawyers in private practice. If you have an interest in participating in that event or serving on the steering committee, please attend either the November or December General Membership meeting, where the project will be discussed.

Judicial Selections

The Judicial Selections Committee will be meeting on November 9th and 10th to interview candidates for the vacancy on the District Court for Baltimore City. The present applicants, are as following:

Kendra Ausby;
Charles ("CJ") Balint;
Joyce Baylor-Thompson;
Michael Braverman;
Claudette Brown;
Joan Fraser;
Lewyn Garrett;
Joan Gordon;
John Howard;

Larry Jordan;
Darren Kadish;
Dana Karangelen;
Patricia Lesnick;
Zakia Mahasa;
James Mann, Jr.;
Sharon May;
Steven Mitchell;
Benjamin Neil;
Christopher Panos;
Devy Russell;
Gregory Sampson;
Stephen Sfekas;
Lisa Stancil; and
Barry Williams.

MONUMENTAL COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Law Suits for the Holidays

There is no more noble a purpose than servicing the community and reaching back to those who need a helping hand. My recent conversation with program managers from the "partner organizations" identified below disclosed that their inventory of professional attire for the constituencies that they serve was nothing more than an article or two of spare clothing hanging on the back of a door. "Law Suits for the Holidays" presents a unique opportunity for all Monumental members to make a positive and lasting difference to those who are less fortunate.

If you or your law firm/agency would like to participate in the clothing drive, please leave a message at Monumental headquarters (410) 234-9991 or send me an email (neduke@ober.com).

Special thanks to the Honorable **Patricia C. Jessamy**, State's Attorney, the Honorable **Elizabeth L. Julian**, District Public Defender, and **Hassan Murphy**, the Law Offices of William H. Murphy, Jr., & Associates, for pledging their respective support. Here are the details:

What: Law Suits for the Holidays: A Charitable Clothing Drive

When: November 22nd to December 15th.

The Plan: Law Firms and governmental agencies will serve as donor organizations. Each donor organization will have a large storage box placed in a prominent location within their office for clothing donation purposes. All persons are encouraged to donate (gently) used professional attire by placing such items in the storage boxes during the above-referenced time period.

Partner Organizations: Monumental has formed a partnership with the **Annie Casey Foundation**, **Family Services Division** and the **Greater Baltimore Urban League**, **Urban Debate League**. Both organizations have target audiences that will benefit from the clothing donation. Additionally, **U-Haul** is serving as a corporate sponsor.

Who Benefits: The Annie Casey Foundation's targeted recipients are young African-American men and women who are attempting to reenter the workforce. The Greater Baltimore Urban League's targeted

recipients are Baltimore City high school students participating in the Urban Debate League. Needless to say, both are very worthy causes.

A TRIP AROUND THE BAR

J. Franklyn Bourne Twentieth Annual Scholarship Awards Banquet

When: Thursday, November 4, 2004
Where: 7400 Greenway Center Drive, Greenbelt, Maryland
Time: Reception from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. and Dinner from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

University of Maryland School of Law

When: Date - November 9, 2004
Where: Ceremonial Courtroom in the University of Maryland School of Law
Time: 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

The Black Law Students and the Asian Pacific American Law Student Association in Commemoration of the 40th Anniversary of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 present "From Brown to the Civil Rights Act of 1964: The Sit-In Movement." The featured speakers for the event are Professors Larry S. Gibson and William L. Reynolds, II. They will discuss, respectively, "the Baltimore Sit-Ins" and "the Bell Case." The program will honor Chief Judge Robert M. Bell and focus on the legal decision, *Bell v. Maryland*, 378 U.S. 226 (1964), with reflections to be offered by Chief Judge Bell.

A reception will follow the event in the Krongard Ballroom.

Soulful Symphony

This past spring Sylvia and Eddie Brown announced a generous \$300,000.00, three-year challenge grant to the community for the purpose of supporting a partnership between the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra (BSO) and Soulful Symphony - a 75 member orchestra comprised of African American musicians led by local artist and composer Darin Atwater.

The inaugural concert of this special 4 performance season will be on Saturday, November 13, 2004, at 8 p.m., at Meyerhoff Symphony Hall. For ticket information, please call the BSO box office at 410.783.8000.

Maryland Crime Victims' Resource Center, Inc.

The MCVRC was founded to assist crime victims. The organization recently received a grant through the National Crime Victim Law Institute and the U.S. Justice Department. The grant will be used to provide education forums for victims across the State regarding their legal rights as crime victims. If you have an interest, please send an email to Russell P. Butler, Esq., (rbutler@mdcrimevictims.org).

Maryland State Bar Association

The Maryland State Bar Association's 6th Annual Solo and Small Firm Conference is scheduled to take place on Saturday, November 6, 2004 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the BWI Marriott. For

further information, contact the MSBA at 410.685.7878.

National Women's Prison Project, Inc.

On November 18, 2004, from 12 - 2 p.m., the NWPP, Inc. will host a luncheon in conjunction with the Baltimore Area Health Education Center. The Guest Speaker is Minister Lorraine Heigh (Calvary Baptist Church). The event will be held at 2215 Greenmount Avenue. For further details, contact 410.366.0600.

MONUMENTAL FEATURED ARTICLE OF THE MONTH

The Evolution of Leadership Robert J. Grey Jr. and James R. Jenkins Take the Helm of Two Major Bar Associations

By Todd Steven Burroughs
Minority Corporate Counsel Association/Sept.-Oct. 2004

www.mcca.com

There was a time when the only organization of lawyers that African-American men and women could hope to lead was the National Bar Association, the organization of black lawyers. It was one of many national professional groups that people of color formed to nurture and train generations of leadership in their chosen professions.

Before Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated in 1968, the hard-and-fast rule was this: If the professional group was named "American," there was at least a 90 percent chance it

was a virtually all-white group that barred entry to African Americans and other groups of color.

If the group was called “National,” however, it meant there was at least a 90 percent chance that non-whites had formed it as a response to Jim Crow’s¹ slamming the “American” membership door in their faces. In a way, the discrimination was legal: Prior to the *Brown v. Board of Education*² school desegregation decision and the subsequent modern civil rights movement, African-Americans were considered second-class citizens—not fully “American.”

Today, all professionals in good standing—including women—can join any professional organization they wish.

And now, in the shadow of the 50th anniversary of *Brown v. Board*, two black men, Robert J. Grey Jr., a partner in the Richmond, Va., office of Hunton & Williams, and James R. Jenkins, senior vice president and general counsel of Deere & Company, have been tapped this fall to lead two of the largest and most prestigious international associations of lawyers—groups not defined by race, creed, or gender.

Grey took the helm of the American Bar Association, while Jenkins will lead the Association of Corporate Counsel (ACC, formerly known as the American Corporate Counsel Association; with more than 16,000 members worldwide, ACC is the largest bar association composed solely of in-house counsel). In fact,

Jenkins is the first person of color to lead the ACC, which was founded in 1982. However, the news is not that both are the first blacks to lead their respective organizations—Grey is actually the second black president of the ABA; Dennis Archer, the former mayor of Detroit, was the first—but that they are both taking their prestigious posts at the same time, during the Brown anniversary year.

In separate interviews with Diversity & the Bar[®], both men viewed their elections not as social experiments, but as the natural evolution of their organizations. After all, they explain, in America, those who have proven themselves as leaders eventually get to lead.

“I think that it is indicative of a recognition by the members of the contributions that lawyers of color made in these organizations, and a recognition that there are those blacks ready for leadership in those organizations,” says Grey. “I think it’s coincidental that it happened during the 50th anniversary year of *Brown v. Board*,” he adds.

“But it’s one of those things that time has come—where leadership is shared by a cross-section of the population,” Grey continues.

Jenkins says the “two-fer” has special significance: “I think what it reflects is the growing acceptance of diverse lawyers as leaders in the global legal community. We have always had outstanding lawyers who are active, well-known, and respected in dozens of local and

national professional organizations. I think it's a simple function of opportunity. Whenever African-Americans have had a reasonable opportunity to participate, contribute, and lead as professionals, they have succeeded," says Jenkins.

This idea of doing well by working within the system is exemplified by the successes of Jenkins and Grey, who were involved in the civil rights movement and Vietnam.

In a *Richmond Times-Dispatch* op-ed from this past May, Grey recounted vivid memories of Jim Crow education in that city. "The first six years of my education were in segregated schools, and later I was one of the first to integrate my high school. That experience enabled me to form friendships with people, white and black, that last today. In more ways than I can articulate, I am a product of that ruling [Brown]," says Grey.

Grey went on to earn a bachelor's degree from Virginia Commonwealth University and a law degree from Washington and Lee University in Virginia.

Jenkins earned his bachelor's and law degrees from the University of Michigan. In between, he spent three years in the Army, including a year learning Chinese Mandarin, and a year as an interrogation officer in Saigon, Vietnam.

Both new leaders said they would maintain—and, in some cases, expand—the diversity efforts of

their organizations. Jenkins says that diversity at ACC is a priority, and he plans to continue to build on the historical diversity initiatives of the ACC.

Grey says the ABA's diversity commitment would follow Archer's lead. He plans an umbrella committee to oversee the organization's three diversity-oriented committees: the Commission on Diversity, which deals with professional diversity issues; the Council on Racial and Ethnic Justice, which handles legal issues such as racial profiling; and the Advisory Council on Diversity, which encourages students of color to study the law. He also wants to expand and develop the ABA's scholarship program, which assists many law students of color.

Grey's other priorities include improving America's jury system. Juries, in Grey's view, should be respected as much as judges, be diverse and adequately paid, and be given all of the resources—including access to technology—they need to function properly in the 21st century. "The judges in our system ought to promote a representative jury, and we as lawyers should work toward that end," says Grey. He would also like to debate the issue of pre-emptive strikes, particularly in regards to race.

"Juries are the cornerstones of our democracy," Grey declares. "It's one of the finest acts of citizen participation in our government. It (jury duty) ought to be viewed as a

high calling for citizens in this country,” he emphasizes.

Both men recognized as a priority for their groups the idea of advancing the rule of law around an increasingly democratic world. Their philosophy: Lawyers are central to the maintenance of democracy.

Jenkins emphasizes that with the global reach of many corporations, the role of the corporate lawyer—which he defines as a legal guide, corporate governance navigator, and ethical conscience of the company—is more important than ever.

Ensuring that corporate actions are ethical as well as legal, says Jenkins, falls on the shoulders of the corporate counsel. He or she, Jenkins continues, provides guidance on what’s law, what’s policy, and what’s the best corporate practice. “We have a unique opportunity to influence not only how business is done, but also the climate of what is right and what is wrong,” he declares. “I think it’s a natural role for lawyers who as a matter of training can demystify what is law, versus policy, versus best practice,” he concludes.

Grey sees lawyers as essential players in a “global society that promotes respect and non-corruption...I think we’re central to that,” he adds.

According to Grey, the ABA will continue its initiatives to

communicate with and train lawyers and judges in democracies in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. After all, he points out, if a nation develops without the guarantees of the rights of the individual and the rights of individual property owners, “It’s hard to act on that” as guardians of the law.

These guardians, led by those such as Jenkins and Grey, now range the color and gender spectrum. And those lawyers of color whose professional organizational ambitions were once limited to the ironic label of “National” are now helping to promote the rule of law internationally, free of any artificial or geographical borders.

MONUMENTAL NOVEMBER HISTORY

This month the newsletter features the legacy of four great Americans celebrating November anniversaries.

A Judicial Great, William H. Hastie *November 17*

On this date in 1904, William H. Hastie was born. He was an African-American attorney, Judge/Magistrate, and State Government Official/Executive.

From Knoxville, Tennessee, he received his A. B. from Amherst College in 1925, an LL. B from Harvard University in 1930, and a S.J.D from the same institution in 1933. He received honorary degrees from many other institutions over the years including Rutgers University, Howard University, and

Temple University. Hastie was admitted to the bar in 1930 and was in private practice for three years. In 1933, he became assistant solicitor of the Department of the Interior until 1937.

At that time he became a judge serving the District Court of the Virgin Islands. In 1939, he became dean of the Howard University School of Law. In 1942, he was the first civilian aide to the secretary of war. He was governor of the Virgin Islands between 1946 and 1949, before his position as U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals judge. William Hastie died on April 14th 1976 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Lawyer and Politician, William T. Francis

November 28

On his date we mark the birth of William T. Francis in 1869. He was an African-American politician and lawyer.

Francis was from the state of Indiana coming to Minnesota at an early age. After completing his education, he served in the legal department of Northern Pacific Railroad. Francis opened his own law firm prior to World War II in St. Paul. In 1920, he was president elector at the Republican State Convention. Francis and his wife were instrumental in getting an anti-lynching law passed in the Minnesota State Senate in the 1920s.

His deep concern about the fate of his people is summed up in these

words: "The solution of the whole problem...is simple justice; a recognition of the fact that the rights of the humblest citizen are as worthy of protection as those of the highest." In 1927, he was appointed U. S. Minister to Liberia, Africa by President Calvin Coolidge. William Francis died there two years later of Yellow Fever.

Adam Clayton Powell Jr., Harlem Politician

November 29

This date marks the birth of Adam Clayton Powell Jr., in 1908. He was an African-American minister, publisher, businessman and politician.

Born in New Haven, Connecticut, Powell moved to New York City where his father developed the Abyssinian Baptist Church. After attending public schools, he graduated from Colgate University and received his M. A. in religious education from Columbia University. During the Depression, while handling business affairs at his fathers' church, Adam Clayton Powell Jr., established himself as a charismatic and successful civil rights leader.

He organized mass meetings, rent strikes and public campaigns that forced restaurants, stores, bus lines, utilities, telephone companies, the Harlem hospital and the 1939 Worlds Fair either to hire or begin to promoting black employees. From 1936 to 1944, he published The Peoples Voice Newspaper, served New York State

office of Price Administration and the Manhattan Civilian Defense. He was elected to Congress in 1945, serving on the Indian Affairs, Invalid Pensions and Labor Committees. Soon after his arrival in Washington D. C. he challenged the informal regulations forbidding black representatives from using Capitol facilities reserved for members only.

On the house floor, he clashed immediately with one of the chambers most notorious segregationist, John E. Rankin of Mississippi. Powell attached an anti-discrimination clause to so many pieces of legislation that the rider became known as the Powell Amendment. In 1955, he attended the landmark Bandung Conference of African and Asian nations, returning to urge the Eisenhower administration to pay attention to the emerging third world. The early 60s were productive years for his congressional career. The committee approved over fifty measures authorizing federal programs for areas from minimum wage increases & education & training for the deaf, too student loans & school lunches.

Because of his many political enemies and a slander judgment against him, the House Democratic Caucus stripped Powell of his committee chairmanship in 1967 and would not seat him until completion of an investigation by the Judiciary Committee. A ruling two years later in his favor returned him to his seat in the Ninetieth Congress, but without his seniority. Powell Jr. had

extraordinary local support from Harlem residents to the very end of his controversial career. Adam Clayton Powell Jr., unsuccessfully sought re-nomination in 1970, then retired as a minister and died in 1972.

America's First Black Congresswoman, Shirley Chisholm

November 30

This date marks the birthday of Shirley Chisholm in 1924. She is an African-American teacher, administrator and politician, the first Black woman elected to Congress.

Shirley Anita Chisholm was born in Brooklyn, N. Y. As a young girl she lived with her grandparents in Barbados, returning to New York and graduating from Brooklyn College with a B. A. in Sociology. In 1952 she received her M. A. from Columbia University, soon beginning a career as a nursery school teacher and director. In 1964, Shirley Chisholm was elected to the state assembly and four years later she was elected to Congress, representing New York's Twelfth District.

An outspoken opponent of the congressional seniority system, Chisholm was assigned to the committee on Agriculture and Forestry Subcommittee. She protested this as inappropriate for the representative of an inner city district and was transferred to the Veterans Affairs Committee. Among her efforts during her career,

Chisholm called for an end to British arms sales to South Africa and proposed funding to extend the hours of child care facilities to include working mothers of middle and low income families.

are not intended to be a comprehensive statement of Maryland law, and are not intended to convey legal advice.

In 1972 Shirley Chisholm ran for President as a Democrat, receiving 152 first ballot votes at the convention. Also she took on the Nixon, Ford and Reagan administrations over cuts in federal spending minimum wage, fair housing and education grants. Chisholm declined to run for reelection in 1982, citing the growing conservative political atmosphere and her desire to return to private life.

2004-2005 OFFICERS

Neil E. Duke - President
Kendra Y. Ausby - President-Elect
Ginina A. Stevenson - Secretary
Aretha J. Ector - Treasurer
Beverly F. Hughes - Member-at-Large
Lisa Joi Stancil - Member-at-Large
Nicole Love - NBA Delegate
K. Jameson Lawrence, NBA Delegate

NEXT EDITION: DECEMBER 2004

EDITOR'S NOTE: This Newsletter relies upon the articles and announcements submitted by our Members. As such, please forward your ideas and materials to my attention (neduke@ober.com).

Disclaimer: The material contained in this Newsletter are provided as a public serve and on an informational basis. These material