

FBA Midyear Meeting



The 2009 FBA Midyear Meeting was held on March 20-21, 2009, at the Sheraton Crystal City in Arlington, Va. The Midyear Meeting is an annual meeting that provides the Board of Directors and the National Council with an opportunity to meet and discuss and plan the future of the FBA.

On a smaller scale, the circuit vice presidents, section and division chairs, and chapter presidents each held group meetings on current events and best practices to share with their colleagues in the FBA.

The Fellows of the Foundation of the FBA hosted a dinner on March 21 at the Palm Restaurant in Washington, D.C.

The Fellows are individuals who have demonstrated exceptional dedication to the Federal Bar Association. In addition to supporting the general activities of the Foundation, the Fellows also sponsor an annual silent auction at the FBA's annual convention, which raises funds for the foundation's activities. For more information on the Foundation of the FBA and the Fellows program, visit www.fedbar.org/foundation.html.

A fun networking opportunity at every Midyear Meeting is the reception on Saturday night. Last year's reception was the first at the new Federal Bar Association headquarters; this year the venue was the same and FBA members had the chance to visit the headquarters for some food and fun. Located in Arlington, Va., the new office space is a central hub for all activities of the association including its chapters, sections, and divisions, and is home to *The Federal Lawyer*.



At the reception at FBA headquarters—(left photo, l to r) Lt. Col. Cheryl Boone; Juanita Sales Lee, FBA president; Sharon O'Grady, vice president for the Ninth Circuit; and Robie Beatty, D.C. Chapter president-elect.

At the Fellows of the Foundation of the Federal Bar Association annual dinner—(top right photo, l to r) Alfred Belcuore, FBA past president; William Hoch; JoAnn Baca; Lawrence Baca, FBA president-elect; D. Michael McBride III, FBA general counsel; and Ping McBride.

At the Moot Court Competition final round and reception at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces—(bottom right photo, l to r) Ashley Belleau, FBA treasurer; Kevin Maxim, Atlanta Chapter president-elect; Robyn Spalter, FBA past president; and Lt. Col. Robert DeSousa, FBA Board of Directors member. Photo courtesy of D. Michael McBride III.



At the Fellows of the Foundation of the Federal Bar Association dinner—(left photo, l to r) standing: Fellows Nestor Mendez-Gomez; Judge Gustavo Gelpi, FBA Board of Directors member; Miles F. Ryan III; Jose Fuentes-Agostini; Alfredo Castellanos; Luis Nido; Andres Lopez; seated: Fellow Katherine Gonzalez; (right photo) Fellow Aaron Bulhoff entertains the dinner attendees by juggling lemons at the Palm Restaurant.



At the reception at FBA headquarters—(top left photo, l to r) Jim Richardson, FBA immediate past president; Brian Murphy, Vice President for the D.C. Circuit; (top right photo, l to r) Robert Rappel, Senior Lawyers Division chair; Brian Figot; (bottom left photo, l to r) Raymond Dowd, Vice President for the Second Circuit and *The Federal Lawyer* Editorial Board member; Shana-Tara Regon, District of Connecticut chapter president; (bottom right photo, l to r) Harold McPherson, Hawaii Chapter president-elect; William Hoch, 2009 Oklahoma City convention co-chair.



2009 FBA Moot Court Competition



At the 2009 Moot Court Competition—(top left photo, l to r) 2009 Champions: Peter Kidd and Deborah Richman, Drexel University Earle Mack School of Law; (top right photo, l to r) Second Place Winners Joshua Hoffman and Don Mitchell, New York Law School; (bottom right photo, l to r) Third Place Winners Amanda Homer and Kyle Mardis, Southern Illinois University School of Law.



On March 19-20, 2009, 27 teams competed in the Younger Lawyer Division's 12th Annual Thurgood A. Marshall Memorial Moot Court Competition in Washington, D.C. This year's problem was regarding the correct constitutional standard under which student free speech claims should be analyzed when the speech occurs as part of regular school curriculum.

Four teams advanced to the semi-final round based on a combination of their scores on written briefs submitted prior to the competition and oral arguments in the preliminary rounds.

The final round of the competition, held at the historic U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces, was judged by

Alfredo A. Castellanos, Hon. Andrew S. Effron and Hon. Scott W. Stucky, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces, FBA President Juanita Sales Lee, and YLD Chair Kelsey Kornick Funes. The final round was based solely on oral argument performance, and afterwards Chief Judge Andrew Effron of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces announced the 2009 champion: Drexel University Earle Mack School of Law.

The YLD thanks those FBA member-volunteers who assisted with planning, judged preliminary rounds, and attended the awards ceremony. Special thanks to the final round judges and to Chief Judge Effron for graciously hosting the final round for the last 12 years.



At the 2009 Moot Court Competition— (left photo) First Place Overall Oralist Brian DeHem, Indiana University Maurer School of Law-Bloomington; (center photo) Best Final Round Oralist Don Mitchell, New York Law School; (right photo, l to r) First Place Brief Winners Julia Leo and Drew Odum, Cleveland-Marshall College of Law.

2009 Moot Court Champions

Peter Kidd and
Deborah Richman
Drexel University Earle Mack
School of Law

Second Place Winners

Joshua Hoffman and
Don Mitchell
New York Law School

Third Place Winners

Amanda Horner and Kyle Mardis
Southern Illinois University
School of Law

Fourth Place Winners

Kristin Merani and
Danelco Moxey
St. John's University
School of Law

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Best Final Round Oralist

Don Mitchell
New York Law School

First Place Overall Oralist

Brian DeHem
Indiana University Maurer
School of Law-Bloomington

Second Place Overall Oralist

Jorge Delgado
St. Thomas University
School of Law

Third Place Overall Oralist

Danelco Moxey
St. John's University
School of Law

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First Place Brief

Julia Leo and Drew Odum
Cleveland-Marshall
College of Law

Second Place Brief

Timothy Lemon and
Michael Lockhart
University of North Dakota
School of Law

Third Place Brief

Amanda Horner and Kyle Mardis
Southern Illinois University
School of Law

The speaker at this year's Midyear Meeting luncheon was Talmage Boston, trial lawyer and shareholder at Winstead PC in Houston, Texas, and author of two books: *1939: Baseball's Tipping Point* and *Baseball and the Baby Boomer: A History, Commentary, and Memoir*. Boston read excerpts from the latter and spoke on baseball history, including his praise of heroes remembered for their feats on the field, their devotion to the national pastime, and their courageous actions in the warmest of spotlights during the toughest of times.

Boston has lectured on baseball history at Princeton University, the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum, Houston's Museum of Fine Arts, and SMU's Cox School of Business. His essays on baseball have appeared in the *Dallas Morning News*, *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, the National Baseball Hall of Fame's *Memories and Dreams* magazine, *The Scribner Encyclopedia of American Lives: Sports Figures*, SABR's *Baseball Research Journal*, *Elysian Fields Quarterly*, and on the walls of The Nolan Ryan Center, all leading to his induction into the Texas Baseball Hall of Fame as a Media Member.

"The greatness of baseball passes from one generation to the next. Some things come and go—players, owners, uniforms, stadiums, teams, sometimes even the rules—but the beauty of the game never changes. Talmage Boston captures the heart and soul of the game that we, as Baby Boomers, inherited."

—John Grisham, novelist and retired attorney



At the Midyear Meeting luncheon— (top photo, l to r) Mark Vincent, FBA Board of Directors member; Richard Theis, FBA Board of Directors member; Juanita Sales Lee, FBA president; author Talmage Boston; Lawrence Baca, FBA president-elect; Bill LaForge, past FBA president; Jack Lockridge, FBA executive director; (bottom left photo, l to r) Boston signs books for Patrick O'Keefe, New Orleans Chapter, and Todd Hedgepeth, FBA vice president for the Fifth Circuit; (bottom right photo) Boston's newest book, *Baseball and the Baby Boomer: A History, Commentary, and Memoir*.

