

From Sept. 18-20, the FBA convened for the 2008 Annual Meeting and Convention in Huntsville, Ala. The convention featured two tracks of continuing legal education: a civil/criminal track focused on issues such as professionalism and bench/bar relations, civil rights and the Supreme Court, wage-hour law, criminal justice policy, and bankruptcy; and a government acquisitions track, focused on military and government issues such as legal issues concerned with space travel, the Buy America Trade Agreement, contingent worker issues, congressional earmarks, and more. In addition to the work, there was also play in Huntsville: a Casino Night at the Huntsville Botanical Gardens and a tour of the Davidson Center for Space Exploration, home of the Saturn V rocket, followed by a reception at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center. History was made when Juanita Sales Lee was installed as president of the Federal Bar Association at the Presidential Installation Banquet, thereby becoming the first African-American woman to serve as president of a large, national U.S. bar association.



(1) Long-time friends (l to r) Harvey Glance, Patricia Glance, Juanita Sales Lee, and Dr. Joseph Henderson reunite at the Foundation of the Federal Bar Association Fellows Induction Luncheon on Thursday, Sept. 18. (2) Erik Christiansen, Foundation Fellow Mark Vincent, and Foundation Charter Fellow Aaron Bulloff. (3) Featured speaker Harvey Glance, University of Alabama head track coach, 1976 Olympic gold medalist, and 2008 assistant coach for the U.S. Olympic track team, speaks about life lessons learned on the track, the motivation and drive necessary for achieving high goals, and his experiences as a coach both in the U.S. collegiate system and overseas in Beijing with the 2008 Olympic team. (4) 2008 Foundation Fellows inductees (l to r) Ray Dowd, Life Fellow; Fern Bomchill, Life Fellow; Will Hoch, Fellow; Anh Le Kremer, Fellow; Hon. Michelle Burns, Fellow; Dennis Clark, Life Fellow; and David Rosenbaum, Sustaining Charter Life Fellow. 2008 Foundation Fellows not pictured: John Lenoir, Fellow; Hon. Raymond L. Acosta, Life Fellow; Hon. Jaime Pieras Jr., Life Fellow; Hon. Juan R. Torruella, Life Fellow; and Veronica Ferraiuoli, Fellow. The Foundation also named Supreme Court Justice Stephen G. Breyer as an Honorary Life Fellow.



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(1) Bobby Lee Cook, featured speaker at the plenary session entitled, "The Long Journey of a Country Lawyer: 1948–2008," speaks about a free people and the struggles to obtain and enshrine their constitutional rights. (2) Lt. Gen. Henry A. Obering, Missile Defense Agency gives a forecast for the near-, mid-, and long-term future of the agency. (3) Speakers from the panel on "Civil Rights and the Supreme Court" (l to r): Hon. Myron Thompson, U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Alabama; Hon. Curtis L. Collier, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee; Professor Brian Fair, University of Alabama School of Law (moderator); Hon. Bernice Donald, U.S. District Court for the Western District of Tennessee; and Hon. U.W. Clemon, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Alabama and honorary convention chair. (4) Hon. Callie V.S. Granade, U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico, speaks about the professionalism of counsel and bench/bar relations. (5) David T. Ralston of Foley & Lardner LLP gives a general overview and specific legal analysis of the Buy America Trade Agreement and the Berry Amendment practice area. (6) Sumara Thompson-King, Office of General Counsel, NASA, describes the legal issues involved in NASA's mission to return to the Moon and travel on to Mars.



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WRAP-UP

Casino Night

Huntsville Botanical Gardens



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Casino Night at Huntsville Botanical Gardens was a big hit! Players could hit the blackjack, poker, or craps tables, or take their chance on the roulette wheel. Winnings were cashed into tickets and at the end of the night, prizes were distributed. Prizes included a Dell laptop computer, Nintendo Wii, a Garmin GPS system, a digital camera, two iPod Nanos, and more.

(1) The butterfly house at the Huntsville Botanical Gardens is a main attraction for those who visit. (2) Kimberly and Devinti Williams, co-chair of the convention planning committee, enjoy a game with Saundra Nugent of the Acquisition Integrity Program at NASA, who spoke earlier in the day during the government acquisitions CLE track. (3) Robert and Eliz DeSousa and their sons, Nathan and David, with Ashley Belleau, far right. Robert and Ashley serve on the FBA Board of Directors. (4) Paul Freehling, FBA vice president for the Seventh Circuit, and Steve Jackson, FBA vice president of the Fourth Circuit, bet with FBA Board of Directors members Fern Bomchill and Nancy Moriarty.



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(1) Hon. Gustavo Gelpi, U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico, Sean Connolly, FBA Board of Directors member, and Katherine Gonzalez-Valentin take a break from the tables. (2) Margaret Simmons, co-chair of the convention planning committee, accepts the grand prize of a Dell laptop computer from FBA staff members. Margaret donated the laptop to the Foundation of the Federal Bar Association Silent Auction. (3) Paul Vamvas, Capitol Hill chapter president. (4) FBA President Jim Richardson and his wife, Kathy. (5) Terry Lieberman, Kathleen West, and Jim West, vice president for the Third Circuit, watch the roulette wheel to see if they can increase their winnings. (6) A resident of the Hunstville Botanical Gardens suns himself on the rocks.



WRAP-UP



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(1) Recipients of the Younger Federal Lawyer Awards, presented at the luncheon on Friday (l to r): W. Anders Folk, assistant U.S. attorney, U.S. Department of Justice, Major Crimes Section, District of Minnesota; Anne Marie Bechdolt, attorney, Federal Aviation Administration, Regulations Division, Office of Chief Counsel; Claudia Burke, senior trial/appellate counsel, U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Division, Commercial Litigation Branch; Jeffrey Barham, attorney, National Labor Relations Board, Appellate and Supreme Court Litigation Branch; Capt. Adam Hill, Chief of Legal Assistance and Operational Law, U.S. Army. (2) Younger Lawyers Division Board of Directors (l to r): Matthew Moschella, Matthew Moreland, Sean Connolly, Kelly Scalise, and Gregory Kolokouris. (3) Jack Lockridge, FBA executive director, speaks during the chapter leadership meeting on Friday. (4) On behalf of the Editorial Board, Stacy King, FBA director of communications and marketing, and René Harrod, 2009 editor in chief of *The Federal Lawyer*, present Hon. Craig Gargotta, current editor in chief, with a small replica of the mural in appreciation of his five years of service to the FBA. (5) Tony Baker and Margaret Simmons accept a “WOW” Award on behalf of the Northern Alabama Chapter, recognized for their work in planning and running the 2008 convention. (6) Shelley Rucker and Rita LaLumia accept a “WOW” Award on behalf of the Chattanooga Chapter, recognized for their CLE presentation on the trial of Jimmy Hoffa. (7) Hon. Helen “Ginger” Berrigan accepts the Elaine R. “Boots” Fisher Award and a \$500 check, made out to her choice of charity—the Trinity Christian Community. The award is presented by the Northern District of Ohio Chapter to stimulate, encourage, and recognize exemplary community, public and charitable service by members of the Federal Bar Association.



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FBA Awards Luncheon: (1) Recipients of the Presidential Excellence Awards accepted by, back row: Christina Farinola and Dennis Clark, Eastern District of Michigan; Erik Christiansen, Utah Chapter; Todd Hedgepeth, Bill Kirk, Paul Barkhurst, San Antonio Chapter; Kevin Weimer, Atlanta Chapter; Dan Sasse, Orange County; front row: Jonathan Hafen, Utah Chapter; Virginia Schlueter, New Orleans Chapter; Dora Monserrate, Puerto Rico Chapter; and Larry Westberg, Idaho Chapter. (2) Recipients of the Presidential Citations accepted by, back row: Rob Thielhelm, Orlando Chapter; Greg Ward, Broward County Chapter; Brian Murphy, D.C. Chapter; Paul Freehling, Chicago Chapter; Tom Gressette, South Carolina Chapter; Todd Hedgepeth, San Antonio Chapter; Kevin Weimer, Atlanta Chapter; Bill Kirk, San Antonio Chapter; Hank Eagles, Maryland Chapter; Paul Barkhurst, San Antonio Chapter; Abbey Hairston, Maryland Chapter; Robin Feder, Rhode Island Chapter; Mike McBride, Northern Eastern Oklahoma Chapter; Ronald Crump, D.C. Chapter; Jim Satola, Northern District of Ohio Chapter; Amy Gell and Ray Dowd, Southern District of New York Chapter; Aaron Bulloff, Northern District of Ohio Chapter; Simeon Baum, Southern District of New York Chapter; Dennis Clark, Eastern District of Michigan Chapter; Jonathan Hafen, Utah Chapter; Larry Westberg, Idaho Chapter; Erik Christiansen, Utah Chapter; front row: Rita LaLumia, Chattanooga Chapter; Maria Vathis, Chicago Chapter; Virginia Schlueter, New Orleans Chapter; and Christina Farinola, Eastern District of Michigan Chapter. (3) Recipients of the Outstanding Newsletter Recognition Awards accepted by Christina Farinola, Eastern District of Michigan Chapter; Kelley Scalise, New Orleans Chapter; Jonathan Hafen and Erik Christiansen, Utah Chapter; Ricardo Casellas, Dora Monserrate, and Katherine Gonzalez, Puerto Rico Chapter. (4) Recipients of the Meritorious Newsletter Recognition Awards accepted by Kevin Maxim and Kevin Weimer, Atlanta Chapter; Susan Pitchford, Oregon Chapter; Aaron Bulloff and Jim Satola, Northern District of Ohio Chapter; and Larry Westberg, Idaho Chapter. (5) Recipients of the Presidential Achievement Awards accepted by Rob Thielhelm, Orlando Chapter; Greg Ward, Broward County Chapter; Margaret Simmons, North Alabama Chapter; Jim Satola and Aaron Bulloff, Northern District of Ohio Chapter; Hank Eagles and Abbey Hairston, Maryland Chapter; Mike McBride, Northern Eastern Oklahoma Chapter Member; and Robin Feder, Rhode Island Chapter.

WRAP-UP

U.S. Space and Rocket Center



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Those who attended the reception at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center received a real treat—the chance to stand underneath one of the largest rockets ever built, the Saturn V. Although there is a replica standing vertically outside the Davidson Center for Space Exploration, the real deal is *inside*—hung horizontally from the ceiling—and has been restored to its former glory.

(1) Danielle Brewer, Luis Nido, and Miles Ryan. (2) Cynthia Coleman and Emanuel Coleman. (3) (l to r): Bob McNew, past national president; Elvia Santana; Roberto Santana; Jim Bland, past national president; and Bill LaForge, past national president. (4) Brave souls who dared to ride the flight simulator (l to r): Patrick O'Keefe, Stacy King, Myrna O'Keefe, Aisling O'Keefe, Lori Gorman, Ashley Belleau, national treasurer, and Beth Smith. (5) Lawrence Baca, national president-elect, Roberta Theis, and Richard Theis, FBA Board of Directors member.



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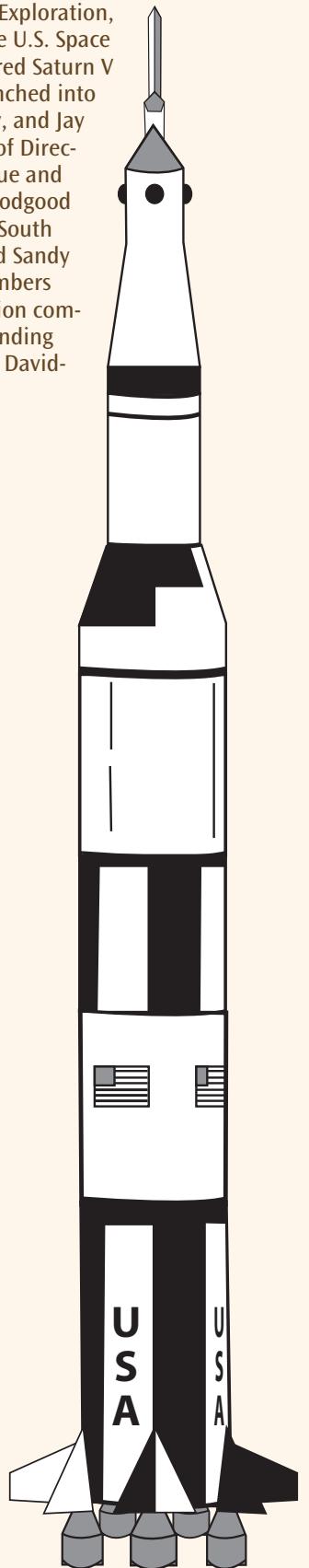


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(1) The Davidson Center for Space Exploration, which is the newest building at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center, houses a restored Saturn V rocket, the largest rocket ever launched into space. (2) Joseph Lee, Robie Beatty, and Jay Lee. (3) Warren Burke, FBA Board of Directors member with his wife, Monique and daughter, Evageline. (4) Nancy Bloodgood and Christie Varnado, both of the South Carolina Chapter. (5) Will Hoch and Sandy Coats, Oklahoma City Chapter members and co-chairs of the 2009 convention committee, take in the exhibits surrounding the massive Saturn V rocket in the Davidson Center.



WRAP-UP

Reception and Presidential Installation Banquet



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(1) Patricia Lacey, Ray Dowd, George Liberman, and Terry Lieberman. (2) Convention Committee members Buck Watson, Tony Baker, and Jake Watson. (3) Christie Varnado, Fern Bomchill, Ann Clarke, Nancy Bloodgood, René Harrod, and Nancy Moriarty. (4) The 2008 Earl W. Kintner award is presented to Robert Clarke for his efforts and commitment to make the FBA an outstanding bar association. (5) Hon. Barefoot Sanders, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas, was given the 2008 Sarah T. Hughes Award prior to the convention. A video of Hon. Sanders accepting the award was played following an introduction by Kent Hofmeister. (6) Jim Richardson presents the President's Award to Hon. Craig Gargotta, U.S. Bankruptcy Court of the Western District of Texas, for his five years of service to the FBA as the editor in chief of *The Federal Lawyer*.



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(1) John Cady, Shearer & Associates, introduces Juanita Sales Lee as the next president of the Federal Bar Association. (2) Juanita Sales Lee describes her plans and thoughts for the FBA in the coming year. (3) Hon. Myron Thompson, U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Alabama, administers the oath to Juanita Sales Lee and the national officers for fiscal year 2009. (4) Carolyn Faraci, Frank Faraci, Delia Black, and Jane Seltzer. (5) Jim Richardson presents President Juanita Sales Lee with a bouquet of roses after she is installed. (6) Jim Richardson presents the 2008 Ilene and Michael Shaw Public Service Grant to Aaron Bulloff and Jim Satola on behalf of the Northern District of Ohio Chapter for the chapter's public service work. (7) Juanita Sales Lee is surrounded by her children, grandchildren, and other family members before the banquet.



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