



# PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

BY LORI OKUN

Another Thanksgiving has just come and gone. WLS and I both have much to be thankful for. WLS had an exceptional board this year, and we had a very successful year.

Development Co-Chairs **Jamie Errecart**, **Michele Z. Stevenson** and **Stacy Mounir** revitalized the WLS Artfest. They returned the event to the beautiful Julia Morgan House, found a new band, and enlisted the help of a private auction company. Thanks to their tireless work and the help of our sponsors, the event netted over \$7,000 for WLS scholarships and grants. Grants and Awards Co-Chairs **Anissa Knox Stelle** and **Christine Jacobs** finalized the 2006 community grants, are reviewing applications for the Virginia Mueller scholarship to be presented at the January 2007 luncheon, and oversaw an increased number of award nominations. In addition to our own Frances Newell Carr Award, presented to Judge Emily Vasquez, WLS nominated successful local attorneys for a number of statewide awards this year. Appointments Co-Chairs **Tamara Dahn** and **Jennifer Rouse** assisted with California Women Lawyers’ So You Want to Be a Judge program, which was held in Sacramento this year. They also presented a seminar on how to become a federal court magistrate judge, in addition to their usual duties of evaluating numerous judicial candidates. Their quick turnaround on evaluations of Third District Court of Appeal justices running for retention was much appreciated by both WLS and the justices. (All four justices won their elections.) Legislation and Bar Delegations Co-Chair **Megan Lewis** and **Andrea Ritigstein** had the daunting task of reviewing all legislative proposals for the State Bar Conference of Delegates. Both attended the Conference to vote WLS’ positions and continued our active partnership with the Sacramento County Bar delegation. Membership Co-Chairs **Kathleen Harris Kelly** and **Ann Barry Fleenor** kept track of our members, helped with the conversion of the mailing list to an e-mail list, and engaged in successful negotiations regarding the cost of the annual directory. They cheerfully spent months proofreading and correcting printing errors so WLS could have an accurate and well-presented directory. Vice Chair **Paula Hui** strengthened our law student outreach, as I’ve reported here in the past, and recruited new board members to keep

her legacy going as she retires from the WLS board. **Jennifer Corey** and **Gayle M. Kono** oversaw the conversion of the newsletter to an electronic format. They consistently got the newsletter out on time, despite problems with outside service providers and occasional deadline violations by yours truly. Programs Co-Chairs **Amal Abu-Rahma** and **Jennifer Gore** treated us to a year of inspiring luncheon speakers. The joint programs with other Unity Bar organizations provided an opportunity to get together with colleagues who don’t normally attend our luncheons (although they are always welcome!) The increased luncheon attendance attests to the quality of the programs. Publicity Co-Chair **Theresa Rea Martinez** kept you informed of WLS and community events. Community Development Co-Chair **Maggy Krell** was active in the Protect and Defend program, and helped to re-start the 4th and 5th Rs program without assistance from other organizations. Past President Liason **Jennifer Brodkey Kaufman** always had a ready answer to the question, “But why have we always done it that way?”



Vice President **Theresa La Voie** and Secretary **June Coleman** worked hard to make 2006 a successful year for WLS, while at the same time facing the challenges of starting a new firm. Theresa, in particular, was a trooper, co-chairing the Unity Bar dinner in October and serving as the entire committee for the Supreme Court reception – a mere 10 days later. Treasurer **Pat Sturdevant** kept us solvent and volunteered for many other duties, including working on the No Glass Ceiling project, helping prepare award nominations, and (with Tamara Dahn) keeping us informed about the State Bar’s Committee on Women in the Law.

So, allow me to thank each of the WLS 2006 Board members, and to thank you, the members of WLS, for allowing me the opportunity to serve as your president this year.

# HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO THE WOMEN LAWYERS OF SACRAMENTO!

PLEASE JOIN US IN A CELEBRATION OF LIFE, CAREER, AND COMMUNITY  
AT THE DECEMBER LUNCHEON SWEARING IN THE 2007 WLS  
OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

The Honorable M. Kathleen Butz, Associate Justice of the Third District Court of Appeal, will install the new WLS Officers and Board Members for 2007. A social and celebratory luncheon will be held to reflect on our accomplishments for the year of 2006, as well as to contemplate our vision for the year of 2007.

**DATE: December 14, 2006**

## Host Hors D'Oeuvres

House-Made Lamb Sausage (*With Kalamata Olives and Sun-Dried Tomatoes*)

Vegetable Wonton Rolls (*With Asian Spices and a Light Vinaigrette*)

Herbed Goat Cheese Baked in Phyllo (*With a Braised Pear Filling*)

Stuffed Mushrooms (*Smoked Chicken, Foie Gras Filling & Port Wine Sauce*)

No-Host Bar

**WHERE:** Firehouse Restaurant (Old Sacramento) Courtyard Grill Room

**TIME:** 12:00-1:15 p.m.

**MENU:** Petite Filet Mignon served with a green peppercorn sauce, roasted garlic mashed potatoes and fresh vegetables, Atlantic King Salmon pan-seared over braised fennel, served with Mandarin Orange-pink peppercorn compound butter, or Grilled Portobello Mushroom Tower marinated portobello mushrooms, layered with mozzarella, roasted red peppers, and grilled tomatoes garnished with grilled eggplant and basil pesto sauce.

**COST:** \$20.00 for pre-paid WLS members, past presidents of WLS, and judges; \$25.00 for all others, except law students, whose cost is \$15.00. It may not be possible to get a first choice entree unless reserved in advance.

Please mail a check, payable to WLS, with menu choice to WLS, P.O. Box 936, Sacramento, CA 95812, Attn: Luncheon, by **December 6, 2006**. **Please indicate if you are a pre-paid WLS member, past president, or judge on your check.** WLS will be charged for cancellations, so payments must be received in advance and are thus non-refundable.

RSVPs or Questions? Contact WLS Member Amal Abu-Rahma at (916) 322-9726 or [aaburahma@dmhc.ca.gov](mailto:aaburahma@dmhc.ca.gov) or WLS Member Jennifer Gore at (916) 716-9375 or [jen.gore@yahoo.com](mailto:jen.gore@yahoo.com).

Seating at the door is subject to availability. Please bring any unused toiletries and women's personal items to the luncheon. These items will be donated to Maryhouse, a non-profit organization helping homeless women and children.

# WLS ANNOUNCES 2007 BOARD

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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2007 WLS BOARD

**President:** Theresa LaVoie

**Vice President:** June Coleman

**Secretary:** Pat Sturdevant

**Treasurer:** Anissa Knox Stelle

**Development:** Jamie Errecart and Michele Z. Stevenson; Vice-Chair Maggy Krell

**Grants and Awards:** Christine Jacobs and Joy Rosenquist

**Appointments:** Tamara Dahn and Jennifer Rouse

**Legislation and Bar Delegations:** Andrea Ritigstein and Megan Lewis; Vice-Chair Erin Weber

**Membership:** Jennifer Horst and Livia Stoica; Vice-Chair Mary Dougherty

**Newsletter:** Kristi Fettig and Gayle Kono

**Programs:** Amal Abu-Rahma and Angela Lai

**Publicity/ Community Relations:** Maralee MacDonald and Wendy York

**Past President Liason:** Jean McEvoy...

and welcome to Marcia Augsberger, our new No Glass Ceiling Project Liason

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## 2007 WLS DUES ARE DUE!!

Please use the enclosed membership application to renew your membership for 2007. After many years without raising dues, WLS has increased dues by \$10 in each membership category, except law student memberships. We need this money to defray the costs of no-fee events such as the law student mixer, help sponsor worthy community events related to the WLS mission, keep event costs down, and possibly to recruit paid speakers. Please renew today!

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## SAVE THE DATE

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**8TH ANNUAL MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION DINNER**

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 2007 6-9 PM**

**SACRAMENTO CONVENTION CENTER**

Please join the Martin Luther King Committee in paying tribute to Dr. King's legacy at the 8th annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Dinner. Keynote speaker will be civil rights activist, attorney and co-founder and chief trial counsel for the Southern Poverty Law Center, Mr. Morris Dees.

Join Honorary Co-chair, Congresswoman Doris Matsui, government officials and community leaders in celebrating this year's theme "Individuals Making a Difference". Proceeds benefit local community non-profits.

Tickets are \$100 per person / \$750 for a table of eight. **To reserve seats, please call Anthony Yanez at 916-932-1348. To sponsor this event, please call 916-837-2471.**



## Women Lawyers of Sacramento

P.O. Box 936  
Sacramento, California 95812

## 2006 WLS BOARD

### OFFICERS

#### President

Lori Okun  
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Control Board  
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#### Vice President

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#### Secretary

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#### Treasurer

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### COMMITTEES AND CHAIRS

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Christine Jacobs  
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### Judicial & Other Appointments

Tamara Dahn  
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Jennifer Rouse  
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### Legislation & Bar Delegations

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### Membership

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### Newsletter

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### Programs

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### Publicity/Community Relations

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Theresa Rea Martinez  
Matheny Sears Linkert &  
Long  
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Past President Jennifer  
Brodkey Kaufman  
Third District Court of  
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Jennifer.Kaufman@jud.ca.gov



# Women Lawyers of Sacramento 2007 Membership Application

## APPLICANT INFORMATION

Please do not include my information in the membership directory

Name \_\_\_\_\_ CA Bar Number \_\_\_\_\_ Year Admitted \_\_\_\_\_  
 Firm/Office \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Announcements and newsletters are sent to e-mail addresses only, unless you indicate a preference for paper mailings.

My mail from WLS should be addressed to:  The same as above  The following address:

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

## APPLICANT STATUS Renewal New

**Active Member:** (Member of the CA/Other State Bar, including retired attorneys and law school faculty)

- \$55 - 0 - 5 years in practice/gross income under \$50,000
- \$65 - 5 to 10 years in practice
- \$75 - Over 10 years in practice

**Associate Member:**

- \$25 - Law school graduate not yet admitted to Bar
- \$25 - Law school student (Specify year: \_\_\_\_\_)

**Honorary Member:** (Justices, Judges, WLS Past Presidents)

- Dues waived  Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Sponsorship Levels:**

- Sustaining Donor: (\$100 or more, includes dues) \$ \_\_\_\_\_.
- Foundation Donor: (for grants and scholarships) \$ \_\_\_\_\_.  
(100% tax deductible)
- WLS General Donor: \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

## PRACTICE AREAS

Up to two areas of practice will be listed in the directory. To list additional areas of practice, please include \$10 each with your dues.

- Administrative
- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Appellate
- Bankruptcy
- Business/Corporate
- Civil Litigation
- Civil Rights
- Criminal Law
- Education
- Elder Law
- Environmental/Natural Resources/  
Land Use
- Family
- General Practice
- Government Affairs/Legislation
- Health Care
- Intellectual Property
- Labor & Employment
- Legal Research
- Personal Injury
- Probate / Estate Planning
- Professional Liability
- Public Interest
- Real Estate
- Taxation
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## COMMITTEE PARTICIPATION

Check those WLS committees in which you are interested in participating or receiving more information:

- Development (WLS Foundation)
- Grants & Awards
- Legislation & Bar Delegation
- Membership
- Newsletter
- Publicity / Community Relations
- Programs
- WLS Mentor/Mentor Circle Leader

Please return completed application with check payable to: WLS Membership, P.O. Box 936, Sacramento, CA 95812  
**Questions?** Please contact a Membership Committee Co-Chair Ann Fleenor, afleenor@lsnc.net, (916) 551-2145; Kathleen Harris Kelly, kathleenharriskelly@comcast.net , 916-551-2145, or visit our website at [www.womenlawyers-sacramento.org](http://www.womenlawyers-sacramento.org)

October 2006

Dear Colleague:

As fellow women litigators, we invite you to join The Woman Advocate, a Committee of the American Bar Association's Section of Litigation, one of the fastest-growing Committees in the Section. As a Section member, your membership in up to three committees is *free*.

The Woman Advocate focuses on the unique issues women litigators face. We sponsor programs on topics such as advancement in the profession, rainmaking, mentoring, alternative work arrangements, and the perception of women lawyers within the bar, by the judiciary, by juries and by the public at large. We create a variety of opportunities for networking with fellow lawyers, prospective clients, mentors, and leaders in our profession. We are especially anxious to bring young lawyers into our ranks.

We believe that every woman litigator, judge, or advocate should be a member of the Woman Advocate. Yet we now make up only 2% of the Section, despite that women make up more than a quarter of the membership of the Section. Our profile in the Section of Litigation is growing, however, through grass-roots membership drives and through the work of many members who contribute programming for the Section's meetings. For example:

- We will spearhead a program at the Corporate Counsel Mid-Year Meeting on "Making Friends with the Media" on Saturday, February 17, 2007 at the Amelia Island Plantation in Florida. We will also sponsor a breakfast program entitled "Power Talk: How to Talk so People Will Listen.
- At the Section of Litigation Annual Conference in LA last April, we hosted a groundbreaking program called "Options for the Opt Out Revolution" in an effort to provide guidance not only to women who may be planning to take time away from their careers for some period of time, but also to firms who may want to maintain their relationships with women who happen to be on the "off-ramp" for a while.
- At the upcoming Section of Litigation meeting in April 2007, we will co-sponsor with the Minority Trial Lawyer Committee a conference on Diversity in the profession

We know that the very factors that impact our lives as women litigators may prevent some of us from active involvement in the Committee. Even so, we welcome your membership. We publish a free newsletter for our members that will keep you abreast of pertinent issues.

To join the Woman Advocate Committee online visit [www.abanet.org/litigation](http://www.abanet.org/litigation). We look forward to meeting you!