



Women Lawyers
of Sacramento

DECEMBER 2007

Women Lawyers of Sacramento Newsletter

P.O. Box 936 • Sacramento, California 95812

www.womenlawyers-sacramento.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY THERESA LA VOIE



It's hard to believe that December is here - the stores are brimming with Christmas music and enticing gifts to buy, and my presidency is coming to a close.

It has been my pleasure and an honor to be your 2007 President. This year WLS had an exceptional and distinguished Board who dedicated themselves to

advancing the purposes of WLS. Through their efforts, WLS has been successful in advancing the interests, equality, and the well being of women in the legal profession.

The Development Committee Co-Chairs Jamie Errecart and Michele Z. Stevenson once again planned and hosted a fun filled and financially rewarding WLS Artfest. The event was held at the beautiful Vizcaya Pavilion, where over 250 guests attended and delighted in the delicious food, the wine, live music, silent auction, and the displays of our local artists. Thanks to the extraordinary efforts of Jamie and Michele, and the generosity of our sponsors, the WLS Foundation netted a record \$13,070 for WLS's scholarships and grants.

Grants and Awards Co-Chairs Christine Jacob and Joy Rosenquist completed the 2007 community grants, and reviewed applications from law school students who exemplify not only academic excellence, but show exemplary community service. WLS gave the Virginia Mueller Scholarship, Margaret A. Flynn Scholarship, and WLS Scholarship to well deserving recipients. Christine and Joy also chaired the nominating committee for the Frances Newell Carr Award, which will be presented at WLS's December 13, 2007 installation luncheon. This year WLS also added a scholarship in honor of Karen

Stevens. Christine and Joy are developing the selection criteria and applicants will be solicited in 2008.

Judicial & Others Appointments Co-Chairs Tamara Dahn and Jennifer Rouse were busy presenting local seminars on how to become a state court judge with guest speakers, Judge Emily Vasquez, Judge James Mize, Judge Shelleyanne Chang, and Judge Alan Perkins. In addition, Tamara and Jennifer evaluated numerous judicial candidates, and WLS wrote letters of support for four of these candidates. Jennifer Rouse also kept us well informed of CWL activities as our affiliate representative.



Legislation and Bar Delegations Co-Chair Megan Lewis had an exceptional year. She drafted and proposed a resolution on behalf of WLS, and co-sponsored by Sacramento County Bar Association, for the Conference of Delegates of California Bar Association (CDCBA). The resolution would allow the State Bar to collect voluntary dues of ten dollars for access and fairness issues, and to allow the State Bar to raise this amount every time the dues bill is increased, as necessary. Megan and Tamara Dahn presented the resolution at the Conference of Delegates, which passed, and was the only one that received unanimous support from the CDCBA.

Membership Co-Chairs Jennifer Horst and Livia Stoica divided their duties and each had an outstanding year. Jennifer kept track of our membership and liaised with the printer to publish the WLS Directory. This involved hours of careful editing and organization to ensure the members' information was correct and all the applicants were counted.



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Livia continued WLS's law school student outreach programs spearheaded by Paula Hui in 2005, and organized several successful panel discussions at McGeorge School of Law and U.C. Davis Law School. She also planned a mixer attended by local attorneys, judges, and law school students hosted at the law firm of Weintraub Genshlea Chediak.

Newsletter Co-Chairs Kristi Beckley and Gayle Kono did a remarkable job putting together a newsletter that was not only timely, but well conceived with interesting articles, announcements, and helpful information for our members. They engaged in successfully negotiating the cost of the electronic newsletter, and ensured that those who requested a hard copy received the newsletter in that format. Publishing the newsletter requires tremendous effort, and Kristi and Gayle are to be highly commended for maintaining an excellent source of information for WLS members.

Programs Co-Chairs Amal Abu-Rahma and Angela Lai achieved incredible success this year by presenting inspiring luncheon speakers in keeping with our theme, "Powerful Women." All the luncheons were well attended, almost to over capacity at times, but Amal and Angela handled each stressful situation skillfully and with diplomacy. As in the past, some of the luncheons were joint programs with the Unity Bar organizations and this year, for the first time, Sacramento County Bar Association. At that luncheon, WLS presented a special tribute to Karen Stevens, a Past President of WLS and CWL, to honor her years as an outstanding practicing attorney and to recognize her dedication toward the advancement of women in the profession.

Publicity/Community Relations Co-Chair Maralee MacDonald oversaw the WLS website and e-mails keeping members informed of current events and announcements. She also added the No Glass Ceiling link to the website, was the primary photographer at many of the luncheons and other events, and assisted in bringing various networking opportunities to our members. Co-chair Wendy York focused on WLS's community outreach programs and our exposure to others not in the legal field. She organized WLS volunteers to assist in a KVIE telephone fund raiser, with each volunteer

wearing a bright red T-shirt displaying "WLS" prominently on the front. Wendy also worked with local non-profit organizations to collect clothing, food, and money from WLS members at our luncheons. She also contributed several ideas to help WLS obtain positive media exposure.

Past President Liaison Jean McEvoy actively participated at the Board meetings, giving helpful insight and perspective based on her years of experience as a WLS member. It was a pleasure working with Jean again on the Board, and her presence was a great asset.

A special tribute to the Executive Committee members who were invaluable to the success of WLS this year. I am particularly grateful to Vice President June Coleman for handling some of my presidential duties in October when I was hospitalized and later recovering. She took on these extra tasks while working on the Unity Bar Dinner planning committee and hosting, as a committee of one, the California Supreme Court Reception. Both events were resounding successes, and the high attendance attested to the quality of these activities enjoyed by the Sacramento legal community. Secretary Patricia Sturdevant maintained accurate Board minutes, and was active in the Protect and Defend program. She also assisted with the nominations for the Rose Bird and Community Service awards. Treasurer Anissa Knox Stelle kept the bank account straight and WLS solvent. She also assisted me at the luncheons if I could not attend, and volunteered for many other duties.

I want to take this opportunity to sincerely thank each of the WLS 2007 Board members, and also the entire membership. Without the support and encouragement of our members, we would not be able to work toward and achieve the goals of WLS.

I would also like to extend my warmest holiday wishes to you, your family and loved ones. As we celebrate this holiday season, I hope that the spirit of giving and the hope of love and peace are with you all, today and throughout the coming New Year.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE INSTITUTE PRESENTS:

RETAINING & DEVELOPING WOMEN LAWYERS: IMPLEMENTING EFFECTIVE WOMEN'S INITIATIVES TO CULTIVATE TALENT, PREVENT ATTRITION, AND BOOST YOUR FIRM'S COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE

DECEMBER 4-5, 2007
HYATT REGENCY, SAN FRANCISCO

TO REGISTER OR FOR MORE
INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL
888-224-2480

THE ASIAN/PACIFIC BAR ASSOCIATION OF SACRAMENTO PRESENTS THE 2ND ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP APPRECIATION AND HOLIDAY PARTY EVENT

Date: Thursday, December 6, 2007

Time: 5:30 PM

Place: Delegata Building , 2495 Natomas Park Drive, Suite 200, Sacramento

Complimentary Hors D'Oeuvres and Drinks

For more information about ABAS please see the website at www.sacasianpacbar.com.

NOMINATIONS FOR NCWBA'S 2008 ANNUAL PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD ARE BEING ACCEPTED

The National Conference of Women's Bar Associations (NCWBA) is accepting nominations for its 2008 Annual Public Service Award, which will be presented on August 8, 2008 in New York , New York . Nomination forms must be received on or before January 31, 2008.

For more information on the award, contact Sarah J. Crooks, NCWBA Awards Chair at Perkins Coie LLP, 1120 NW Couch Street , Tenth Floor, Portland , OR 97209-4128 . Telephone: (503) 727-2252. E-mail: scrooks@perkinscoie.com, or visit the NCWBA website at www.ncwba.org/publicservice.html.

ADVANCING WOMEN IN THE PROFESSION REPORT AVAILABLE

A conference titled Advancing Women in the Profession: Action Plans for Women's Bar Associations was held in Boston in June 2007. Sponsored by the MIT Workplace Center, the Project for Attorney Retention, and the National Association of Women Lawyers, the conference drew on the experience and wisdom of many women who had engaged in change projects in law firms. The conference aimed at pooling experience of practical action in law firms for the purpose of moving women to leadership in the profession.

The Report of the Conference may be viewed in pdf format at the WLS website under "News." If you would like a hard copy e-mailed to you, please send a request to: workplacecenter@mit.edu.



SAVE THE DATE

9th ANNUAL MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION DINNER

Date: Saturday, January 12, 2008

Time: 6:00-9:00 PM

Place: Sacramento Convention Center

Please join us as we pay tribute to Dr. King's legacy at the 9th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Dinner. Keynote speaker will be child advocate and author of *Somebody's Someone*, Regina Louise.

We look forward to hearing from you and hope you can join us and our Honorary Co-chair, Congresswoman Doris Matsui, government officials and community leaders

as we celebrate this year's theme, "Human Rights: Equal Justice, Equal Opportunity, Equal Dignity."

Proceeds will benefit local community non-profits.

Tickets are \$100 per person / \$750 for a table of eight.

To reserve seats online, go to www.mlkcelebration.org or call Anthony Yanez at 916-932-1348.

To sponsor this event, call 916-932-1308.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Sacramento office of Littler Mendelson is looking for an associate with 3 to 5 years of labor and employment experience. The candidates should possess excellent academic credentials and his/her experience

should include litigation and an extensive employment and labor law background. Interested applicants should e-mail a resume and writing sample to Michele Z. Stevenson at mzstevenson@littler.com.

Hiroshima, Jacobs, Roth and Lewis is seeking an associate with 2-5 years experience in family law to join its family law department of three attorneys. The associate will have his or her own case load under the supervision of and mentoring from senior family law

attorneys in the office. HJRL is an AV rated law firm which has been a part of the legal community for the past 25 years. Interested applicants should e-mail a resume and writing sample to Stephanie Williams at swilliams@hjrl.com.

LITIGATION ATTORNEY WANTED

Ellis, Coleman, Poirier, LaVoie & Steinheimer, a growing law firm, has an immediate opening for a mid-to-senior level associate to assist in civil litigation with a minimum of 4 years experience. Applicant must have strong civil litigation background (preferably in both state and federal courts), outstanding research and writing skills, and experience with depositions, law and motion, case management, trial preparation, and trials.

sional malpractice defense, class actions, banking law, real estate law, and complex business litigation. The partners in the firm have an excellent proven track record of successfully defending or prosecuting cases.

We offer an excellent salary, bonuses and benefits. If you want to be part of our winning team, submit a cover letter, resume and brief writing sample to:

The successful candidate will be enthusiastic, dedicated to excellence in the practice of law, and fit well into a team oriented practice.

Trisha Huff
Ellis, Coleman, Poirier, LaVoie & Steinheimer
555 University Avenue, Suite 200
Sacramento, California 95825

The firm offers a diverse practice in both defendant's and plaintiff's cases, but focuses primarily on profes-

E-mail: Thuff@ecplslaw.com



Happy Holidays to the Women Lawyers of Sacramento!

Please Join Us in a Celebration Honoring all of the Powerful Women Featured by WLS in 2007, as well as the Countless Powerful Women in this State and Abroad, at our December Luncheon Swearing In the 2008 WLS Officers and Board Members.

The Hon. Emily Vasquez, Sacramento Superior Court Judge, will install the 2008 WLS Officers and Board Members. A social and celebratory luncheon will be held to reflect on accomplishments for the year of 2007, as well as to contemplate our vision for 2008. Also, the 2007 Frances Newell Carr Award recipient will be announced and honored.

DATE: December 13, 2007

Please note earlier RSVP deadline due to the Christmas holiday. Please note increased cost listed below. (Special Parking Note: Parking validation is not available for the sunken lot behind the Firehouse next to the patio.)

RSVP with menu choice by December 5th to WLS Member Angela Lai at (916) 442-8888 or alai@nossaman.com.

Host Hors D'Oeuvres

Brie & Spiced-Pear Crostini
Croustade with Duck Confit, Melon, and Prosciutto
Mini Bruschetta with Fresh Mozzarella and Balsamic Gastrique
Crab and Avocado Maki Sushi
Spicy Tuna and Tobiko Maki Sushi
Sashimi Wontons with Sesame Ginger Slaw

No Host Bar

WHERE: Firehouse Restaurant (Old Sacramento) Courtyard Grill Room

TIME: 11:45-1:15 p.m.

MENU: **Petite Bistro Filet** char-grilled with tricolored peppercorns, port-braised shallot and plum chutney with sauce au poivre, **Petit King Salmon** pan seared with sauce arlesienne and tomato confit, or **Vegetable Wellington** with butternut squash, golden beets, caramelized onions, braised fennel, and Napa cabbage in a light puff pastry with parsnip-celery root puree.

COST: **\$25.00** for WLS prepaid members, past presidents of WLS, and judges; **\$30.00** for all others, except law students, whose cost is **\$15.00**. It may not be possible to get the entrée of first choice unless reservation is made before the deadline. Please mail your check payable to WLS and menu choice by December 5, 2007 to WLS, Attn: Luncheon, P.O. Box 936, Sacramento, CA 95812. Please indicate on the check if you are a pre-paid WLS or ABAS member, past president, or judge. Since WLS and ABAS will be charged for cancellations, payments must be received in advance and are non-refundable.

RSVPs or Questions about the luncheon? Contact WLS member Amal Abu-Rahma at (916) 322-9726 or aaburahma@dmhc.ca.gov or WLS/ABAS member Angela Lai at (916) 442-8888 or alai@nossaman.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 that helps homeless women and children.



WLS ANNOUNCES 2008 BOARD

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2008 WLS BOARD

President: June Coleman

Vice President: Patricia Sturdevant

Secretary: Anissa Knox Stelle

Treasurer: Jennifer Rouse

Development: Jamie Errecart and Michele Z. Stevenson;

Vice Chairs: Maggy Krell and Molly Sword

Grants and Awards: Christine Jacob and Sonia Fernandez;

Vice Chair: Joy Rosenquist

Judicial and Other Appointments: Tamara Dahn and Susan Hill;

Vice Chair: Zakiya Norton

Legislation and Bar Delegation: Megan Lewis and Erin Weber;

Vice Chair: Amber Pearce

Membership: Jenny Horst and Colleen Truden;

Vice Chair: Miranda Carroll

Newsletter: Kristi Beckley and Ellen Arabian-Lee;

Vice Chair: Gayle M. Kono

Programs: Amal Abu-Rahma and Angela Lai;

Vice Chair: Samantha Pottenger

Publicity/Community Relations: Maralee MacDonald and Wendy York;

Vice Chair: Dena Maspero

Past President Liaison: Patricia Hart Jorgenson





Women Lawyers of Sacramento 2008 Prepaid Luncheon Application

APPLICANT INFORMATION

- Prepay for 3 or More Luncheons

Please Indicate # of Luncheons: ____ . Please indicate # of Attendees: ____ .

- Prepay for Entire 2008 Luncheon Series - Buy 11 lunches, Get the 12th for Free

Please indicate # of Attendees: ____ .***

***2008 lunches will be \$25.00 for all prepaid members of WLS, Judges, and Past Presidents; \$30.00 for all others; \$15.00 for students. Prepaid lunches are non-refundable, however, they are transferable. In addition, lunches that are prepaid for the year 2008 can only be used during that year and cannot be forwarded to the year 2009. We apologize in advance for any inconvenience this may cause.

Name/Sponsor*: _____

Firm/Office: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

*If you or your organization will be sponsoring attendees, specific names need not be given now, but must be provided at the time of your reservation to attend the program.

MEMBERSHIP STATUS

Indicate #

Indicate #

_____ Active Member of WLS
(Dues Prepaid or WLS
Membership
Application Attached)

_____ Student (Law School
or Otherwise)

_____ Honorary Member of
WLS (Past President
/Judge)

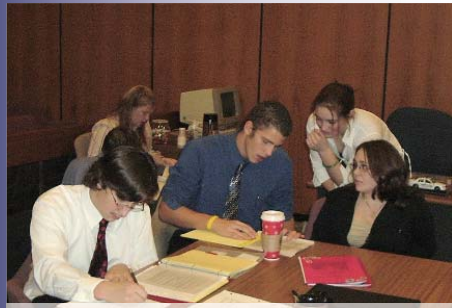
_____ Non-WLS Member

Please return completed application with check payable to: WLS, Attention: Luncheons, P.O. Box 936, Sacramento, CA 95812

Questions? Please contact a Programs Committee Co-Chair at www.womenlawyers-sacramento.org

Gordon D. Schaber High School Law Program

A LawWorks Partnership



EDUCATION



LEADERSHIP



COMMUNITY



CHARACTER

On September 21, 2007 the Center for Youth Citizenship (CYC) held its Annual Kick-Off Luncheon from 11:30 am - 1:30 pm at the Embassy Suites in Downtown Sacramento to mark the beginning of the 29th Annual Gordon D. Schaber (GDS) Competition. The luncheon recognized the ongoing commitment of the local legal community supporters as well as honor the recipients of CYC's annual law-education partnership awards, including: Youth Education & Community Outreach Award, Community Citizenship Award, and Center Partnership Award.

CYC's GDS Competition is a model school and legal community partnership providing schools and communities with service, leadership, moot court, and mock trial activities that increase youth understanding of the law and our judicial system. This year's culminating events are scheduled for January 22, 24, and 26, 2008 at the Gordon D. Schaber Downtown Courthouse. Final Rounds will be conducted on January 30 & 31, 2008 and Community Awards & the Recognition Ceremony will be held on February 7, 2008.

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For more information regarding sponsorship and volunteer opportunities with the Gordon D. Schaber Competition, please contact the Center for Youth Citizenship at (916) 228-2322 or www.youthcitizenship.org.



LAWWORKS

A LAW EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP



Dear Legal Community Leaders,

The Center for Youth Citizenship's (CYC) **LawWorks** is a model law education partnership that develops youth understanding of the judicial system and increases their engagement with the courts and the law. **LawWorks** is designed to connect teachers and legal professionals, expanding youth service to schools and local communities.

Through its service, leadership, moot court, mock trial, and youth court components, **LawWorks** provides youth with the opportunity to develop the academic and character-based citizenship® skills needed by our young citizens.

Providing students with experienced legal representatives whose presence will foster a professional atmosphere is essential to the success of the **LawWorks Partnership**. Currently, legal community leaders are needed to serve in the capacity of Attorney Coaches and Volunteer Judges. Volunteers serving as Attorney Coaches provide ongoing support and training about the rule of law and courtroom procedures, and assist youth participants in developing and organizing legal arguments for the Gordon D. Schaber (GDS) Competition (Moot Court & Mock Trial) and/or Sacramento Youth Court. Volunteer Judges are needed to oversee GDS Competition rounds and determine how effectively teams have prepared and presented their legal arguments.

Legal professionals interested in serving as an Attorney Coach and/or Volunteer Judge are encouraged to submit the volunteer application form to CYC. Additional information regarding volunteer opportunities is available at www.youthcitizenship.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Janet Maloney".

LAWWORKS

A LAW EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP

GDS Competition - Moot Court Attorney Coach

Moot Court is an appellate level proceeding in which participating youth prepare and argue a topical case matter before a panel of three judges that evaluates the students on the quality and persuasiveness of their legal reasoning and presentation, as well as their unscripted responses to spontaneous questions from the bench. Individuals serving in the role of Attorney Coach will share their legal expertise with their teams by volunteering approximately 25 hours between October and January. (Approximately 2 hours per week.)

- First Choice: _____ High School
- Second Choice: _____ High School
- Please assign me to any participating high school in the _____ area.

GDS Competition - Mock Trial Attorney Coach

Mock Trial simulates a trial level proceeding in which students portray the roles of pre-trial counsel, prosecuting and defense attorneys, witnesses, court clerks, bailiffs, and jurors before a single presiding judge and two scoring judges. Individuals serving in the role of Attorney Coach will share their legal expertise with their teams by volunteering approximately 25 hours between October and January. (Approximately 2 hours per week.)

- First Choice: _____ High School
- Second Choice: _____ High School
- Please assign me to any participating high school in the _____ area.

Youth Court Attorney Coach

Youth Court is a bi-monthly court service program that provides students with the opportunity to participate in required court functions, including serving as District Attorneys, Public Defenders, jurors, bailiffs, court clerks, and case managers. Attorney Coaches for Youth Court will be matched with a Teacher Coach throughout the school year and will meet with their school teams bi-weekly for 2 hours (approximation - hours may vary).

- First Choice: _____ High School
- Second Choice: _____ High School
- Please assign me to any participating high school in the _____ area.

Name: _____

Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

LAWWORKS

A LAW EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP

GDS Competition - Moot Court Volunteer Judge

Moot Court is an appellate level proceeding in which participating youth prepare and argue a topical case matter before a panel of three judges that evaluates the students on the quality and persuasiveness of their legal reasoning and presentation, as well as their unscripted responses to spontaneous questions from the bench. Individuals serving in the role of Volunteer Judge are needed for approximately 3 - 9 hours during the week of January 22 - 26, 2008.

Date	Event	Time	Check Preferred Time(s)
January 17, 2008	Volunteer Training Session	5:30 pm - 6:30 pm	All volunteer judges, new and returning, are asked to attend this training session.
January 22, 2008	Moot Court - Round	5:30 pm - 8:30 pm	<input type="checkbox"/>
January 26, 2008	Moot Court - Round	8:30 am - 10:15 am	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Moot Court - Round	10:15 am - 12:00 pm	<input type="checkbox"/>

GDS Competition - Mock Trial Volunteer Judge

Mock Trial simulates a trial level proceeding in which students portray the roles of pre-trial counsel, prosecuting and defense attorneys, witnesses, court clerks, bailiffs, and jurors before a single presiding judge and two scoring judges. Individuals serving in the role of Volunteer Judge are needed for approximately 3-12 hours during the week of January 22 - 26, 2008.

Date	Event	Time	Check Preferred Time(s)	
			Presiding	Scoring
January 17, 2008	Volunteer Training Session	5:30 pm - 6:30 pm	All volunteer judges, new and returning, are asked to attend this training session.	
January 22, 2008	Mock Trial - Round 1	5:30 pm - 8:30 pm	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
January 24, 2008	Mock Trial - Round 2	5:30 pm - 8:30 pm	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
January 26, 2008	Mock Trial - Round 3	8:30 am - 11:00 am	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Mock Trial - Round 4	12:00 pm - 2:30 pm	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Name: _____

Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Send completed form to P.O. Box 269003, Sacramento, CA 95826 or fax to (916) 228-2493.



Women Lawyers of Sacramento

P.O. Box 936
Sacramento, California 95812

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