THE BAR

Women's Bar Association of the District of Columbia

WBA WOMEN CORPORATE COUNSEL RECEPTION

Record Attendance—Partnership with WMACCA, Great Speakers, Great Venue

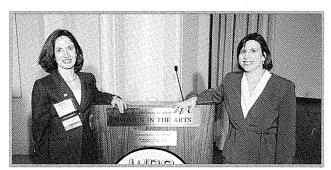
n November 13th, the WBA hosted our largest Women Corporate Counsel Reception to date. Over 130 women corporate counsels from D.C., Maryland, and Virginia gathered at the spectacular National Museum of Women in the Arts for an informative and provocative panel discussion on issues facing women corporate counsel. Those women were joined by our WBA Sustaining Members, Board of Directors, Committee and Forum Co-Chairs, and Sponsors.

Moderating the panel was Robin McCune, senior counsel at Computer Sciences Corporation, and President of the Washington Metropolitan Area Corporate Counsel Association (WMACCA). Robin did an excellent job of posing incisive and hard-hitting questions to the panel, which was comprised of Eunice Lin Bumgardner, General Counsel, The Bureau of National Affairs, Inc., Beverly Burke, Vice President & General Counsel, Washington Gas & Light Company, Ann Kappler, Senior Vice President & General Counsel, Fannie Mae, and Caroline Little, Chief Operating Officer, Washington Post Newsweek Interactive. Each of these accomplished women shared insights into how she reached her position and perspectives on the "do's and don't's" of career advancement in the corporate sector. The panel was followed by an elegant dinner reception in the Museum. Special thanks to event co-chairs Tracy Durkin and Jennifer Duane, and their committee for organizing this terrific event.

-continued on page 7



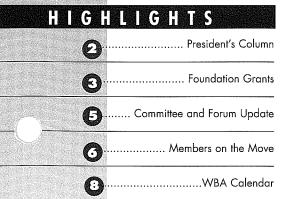
The Panelists: (L to R) Eunice Lin Bumgardner, Beverly Burke, Ann Kappler, and Caroline Little.



WBA President Ellen Jakovic and WMACCA President Robin McCune.



The interest in the program was overwhelming. The auditorium was standing room only!





The dinner reception was held on the lovely Mezzanine at the National Museum of Women in the Arts.

RAISING THE BAR

A Publication of

THE WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

1717 K Street, NW, Suite 503 Washington, DC 20036 (202) 639-8880 Fax: (202) 639-8889 E-mail: wba@wbadc.org http://www.wbadc.org

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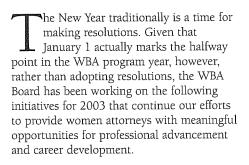
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Kimberly Knight Executive Director

Raising The Bar is published by the Women's Bar Association of the District of Columbia. Subscription rate is \$100 annually. Materials for publication may be submitted to the Editor, Raising The Bar, 1717 K Street, NW, Suite 503, Washington, DC 20036.

WBA Initiatives for 2003

BY ELLEN M. JAKOVIC



ENHANCE MEMBER SERVICES/COMMUNICATION

One of the WBA's major initiatives this year is to enhance member services and communication. This fall, we purchased new computer equipment to enable our Executive Director to support more effectively our committees/forums and the many terrific programs that they organize. We also are in the process of rebuilding our website, which will include exciting new features, such as online membership and program registration, a password-protected searchable membership database that can be updated on-line, and the ability to access online issues of *Raising the Bar*. We hope to have the new website up and running by the end of February 2003.

INCREASE OPPORTUNITIES FOR MENTORING

The WBA long has recognized the importance of mentoring to women's advancement in the legal profession and traditionally has provided a forum for the development of informal mentoring relationships. The WBA's Mentoring Program Committee currently is examining the feasibility of maintaining a formal mentoring program for WBA members, perhaps through our new website. We expect the Committee to bring options and a recommendation to the WBA Board of Directors for consideration and implementation for the next program year.

ORGANIZE ADDITIONAL NETWORKING AND LEADERSHIP EVENTS

Through events such as the "Stars of the Bar" Fall Networking Reception, the Second Annual Golf Classic, and the Women



Corporate Counsel Reception, the WBA has worked this year to provide networking opportunities for women lawyers that recent studies by the ABA's Commission on Women in the Profession have found critical to professional success. Throughout 2003, the WBA committees and forums will continue to offer programs on networking, culminating in the WBA's March showcase program, the 2003 Leadership Dinners. The Leadership Dinners will begin with an elegant dinner reception followed by eight to ten informal discussion groups on leadership and career development, each featuring prominent women in the legal profession. Please check the WBA website (www.wbadc.org) and your email for more information regarding this exciting program.

EXPAND EXISTING NON-VOTING MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

In an effort to increase the WBA's visib ity and influence in the Washington D.C. community, the WBA Board is considering an amendment to the WBA Constitution that will expand our current non-voting Associate Member category (individual with J.D., but not admitted to practice law) to include certain categories of non-lawyers. Other bar associations have adopted non-voting, nonattorney membership categories, including several D.C. voluntary bar associations. The Board also is considering an amendment to expand the current non-voting Student Member category to include degree programs in addition to law. Amendments to the WBA Constitution must be voted on by the WBA membership. WBA members will receive prior written notice of any meeting to vote on these proposed amendments.

Please feel free to share with me any thoughts or comments regarding the initiatives outlined above. Together, we can help the WBA remain a leading force in the Washington legal community and continue to advance women in the profession.

Best wishes for a healthy and prosperous 2003!

Ellen M. Jakovic is Counsel in the

Antitrust Practice Group of the D.C. office of

White & Case LLP. ■

Women's Bar Association Foundation Awards Grants

he WBA Foundation awarded several grants in December 2002. Here is a brief look at the grant recipients and the projects funded.

WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

The WBA Foundation awarded three grants to the WBA for projects aimed to serve women lawyers. The first project is *Raising the Bar*, the WBA member newsletter. With funding from the Foundation, the WBA will be able to continue publishing this critical communication piece that serves to connect and inform the members, as well as serve as a tool for recruiting new members. The newsletter is the main vehicle through which the WBA is able to promote its' members as leaders and role models, and demonstrate our achievements to the larger legal

The second WBA project funded by the WBA Foundation is an overhaul of the WBA website. "Construction" is now underway on a new and improved site that will feature: an online searchable member directory, access to archives of *Raising the Bar*, a searchable archive of articles and white papers on topics ranging from balancing work and family to more substantive topics such as intellectual property rights or family law. Over the years, the WBA has published many studies and articles on various topics. We seek to organize this information, and make it accessible to the members in a cohesive, searchable archive.

The third WBA project funded by the WBA Foundation is our 2003 Leadership Dinners. Program plans are underway for this exciting and meaningful gathering which highlights women leaders.

NATIONAL WOMEN'S LAW CENTER

The Foundation granted \$1,500 in support of the National Women's Law Center's er Education Project, which is designed nock down barriers and open up opportunities for young women in career and vocational education programs, with an emphasis on the high school level. The

Career Education Project works on multiple levels to remedy the barriers to young women – barriers which include sexual harassment, improper steering by guidance counselors, recruiting techniques that rely on stereotypes, lack of information given on wages at the time of enrollment, and biased tests.

The Project aims to educate parents, teachers, guidance counselors, school officials and policy makers about their rights and responsibilities through speaking engagements, media outreach, and coalition activities. The Project will analyze legal developments and factual issues, with the goal of identifying and confronting problems in specific policies and programs via litigation, negotiation and otherwise. The Project also will conduct advocacy on a national and local level in order to increase girls' access to the full range of educational opportunities.

D.C. EMPLOYMENT JUSTICE CENTER

The D.C. Employment Justice Center advocates for the employment rights of the working poor in the metropolitan Washington, D.C. area through direct legal services, advocacy, community education and outreach. Through the Program on Women's Employment Rights (POWER), the Center is able to target the unique and specific needs of low income working women.

The WBA Foundation granted \$3,500 to support the POWER program. The funding will support staff members, who provide legal advice and representation to poor working women. The grant also will support "know your rights" workshops, which are provided to groups of low income women. The workshops are an invaluable way that the Center empowers women to advocate for themselves through education and training on their employment rights. The POWER program is coordinated by WBA member Robin Runge.



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2003

Better Balance In-House?

Project for Attorney Retention Work/Life in Corporate Law Departments

awyers in search of balance in their lives often leave law firms for in-house counsel positions. While many are happy with their new positions, a surprising number report that the schedules and stresses in-house mirror those at firms. What makes some corporate cultures more conducive to a balanced lifestyle, and how can corporate law departments help their lawyers juggle the many demands on their time? These are just two of the questions being studied by the Project for Attorney Retention (PAR) in its new Corporate Counsel Project.

PAR, which issued a 2001 report on how law firms can recruit and retain attorneys by offering non-stigmatized reduced-hours schedules, now is conducting a study of work/life balance in corporate law departments. In addition to documenting ways that corporations can help their in-house attorneys balance satisfying professional work with other responsibilities, PAR is studying the ways in which corporations can support part-time options at law firms. The Project is funded by a grant from the Sloan Foundation

and is supported by the WBA and the American University Washington College of Law

PAR is conducting focus groups, interviews, and surveys, and analyzing published data about work/life in corporate law departments. It will issue a final report in May or June 2003, which will examine the experiences of local in-house attorneys, including schedule issues, workload management, advancement opportunities and perceptions of supervisors and clients. The report will also include a discussion of job sharing, which some corporate law departments are using to the benefit of their attorneys and their internal clients. A compilation of best practices that local and national corporations use successfully to help their attorneys achieve work/life balance will round out the report.

PAR's Corporate Counsel Project will also present ways in which in-house counsel, as clients, can support part-time programs at law firms. Although the motivation for such support may not be evident at first blush,

removing obstacles to part-time work at law firms benefits in-house counsel through decreasing turnover in outside counsel. Decreased turnover in turn saves money and effort that is otherwise expended to bring new attorneys up to speed, and improves productivity of outside counsel.

PAR's research will continue through February of 2003. PAR researchers would like to speak with counsel who are interested in work/life balance issues in corporate law departments, regardless of their gender, seniority, work schedule, or the reason for their interest in balance (e.g., child care, elder care, health issues, volunteerism). All interviews are confidential unless the person interviewed expressly authorizes a quotation (anonymously or named). You can help PAR by passing on this article to colleagues who work in-house. To participate in the study, or to learn more about it, contact PAR through its website, www.pardc.org, or directly as follows: Cynthia Calvert, Co-Director, (41 480-4882, Cynthia@pardc.org; Joan Williams, Co-Director, (202) 274-4245. 🔳

WBA SUSTAINING MEMBERS

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WBA Sustaining Members support the WBA by pledging \$250 in lieu of their regular dues. In return, the WBA recognizes Sustaining Members in Raising the Bar, and VIP invitations to President's Reception at the Annual Dinner, and other WBA special events. Support the WBA by upgrading to Sustaining Member Status.

COMMITTEE AND FORUM UPDATE

WBA SOLO AND SMALL PRACTICE COMMITTEE

Avoiding Danger Zones

January 21

Noon to 1:00pm

Join a brown bag discussion on *Avoiding Danger Zones*, focusing on practice management problems common to solo practitioners and small firms. We will discuss tips on safeguarding against pitfalls. Reid Trautz, Director of the D.C. Bar Lawyer Practice Assistance Program will lead the discussion. Please rsvp to Regina DeMeo, at rdemeo@lewislawfirm.com. Location: The Lewis Law Firm, 805 15th Street, NW, Suite 200. Costs: \$5 for members; \$8 for non-members.

Alternative Dispute Resolution in Family Law Cases February 25

Noon to 1:00pm

In this program we will explore the effective use of alternative dispute resolution, including mediation. Our speakers will be Marna Tucker, Partner, Feldesman, Tucker, Liefer & Fidell and Diane M. Brenneman, from the Law Offices of Diane M. Brenneman. Please rsvp to Regina DeMeo, at rdemeo@lewislawfirm.com. Location: The Lewis Law Firm, 805 15th Street, NW, Suite 200. Costs: \$5 for members; \$8 for non-members.

WBA INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW FORUM

Networking: Instruction and Practice January 16

5:30pm-7:30pm

This unique two-part workshop will teach participants the art of networking. In the first hour, the instructor will explain methods and techniques for successful networking. In the second hour, participants will practice networking at a cocktail reception, gaining invaluable practical training in networking skills. The instructor, Felice Wagner, heads a professional training and consulting firm focused on helping attorneys attract new business and build long-term lucrative client relationships. In addition to her expertise in marketing legal services, she has substantive legal experience as an anti-trust attorney at Morgan Lewis & Bockius and Ropes & Gray. The reception is sponsored by Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner LLP and the event will be held at their offices located at 1300 I Street, NW. Costs: \$15 WBA Members; \$20 non-members.

WBA CAREER DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Work Your Career! February 19

Noon-1:30pm

Is being respected as a professional just a matter of being in the right place at the right time, or are there common threads of performance and behavior that run through the careers of successful women lawyers? Aileen Pisciotta, a Partner at Kelley Drye & Warren, LLP, and Michele Birnbaum, Marketing Director at Caplin & Drysdale, will discuss how they placed themselves in the right place at the right time and will identify factors, including attitude, character, and drive, that contributed to their having successful careers. This one-hour program will offer anecdotal guidance on the steps women attorneys should take to achieve what they want out of their career, as well as advice on how to implement these steps. Additional panelists to be announced. Location: Kelley Drye & Warren, LLP, 1200 19th Street NW (Dupont Circle Metro). Cost: \$10 for WBA members; \$15 for non-members, lunch included.

The Job Search: Win By A Nose!

Please check the WBA website for a new date and time for this program. The original event scheduled for December 11th was cancelled due to inclement weather.

WBA TAX AND BUSINESS FORUM AND WORKING PARENTS FORUM

The Complete Financial Planning Series

Learn practical techniques for managing your personal financial future as well as the financial future of your family members. Topics include effective goal-setting, planning for college and caring for aging parents. Join us for one or all of the program series. Exact dates, cost and location will be announced in late January on the WBA website, www.wbadc.org. Pre-registration is strongly encouraged to ensure a seat.

- > February "The Psychology of Money" with Olivia Mellan
- > March "Smart Women Finish Rich"
- > April "Planning for College: 529 Contribution Plans"
- > May "Caring for Aging Parents: Elder Law Basics"

WBA HEALTH LAW FORUM

Health Law Happy Hour January 15 6:00pm

Gordon Biersch Brewery, 9th and F Streets, NW.

ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

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News From the Office

WBA Woman Lawyer of the Year Nominations Sought

Nominations are sought for the 2003 WBA Woman Lawyer of the Year. The award will be presented at the 2003 WBA/WBAF Annual Dinner on May 20, 2003 at the National Building Museum. Please send your nomination letter to the attention of WBA Past President Mary Kate Whalen via fax: (202) 737-9329 or via email to: mkw@hpm.com by January 31st.

Considering a WBA Leadership Position?

WBA Board of Director elections will be held in April, but now is the time to do your homework if you are considering running for election. If you would like more information, such as details about the duties and time commitment required of the Board, please contact Deborah Israel, Nominating Committee Chair at (202) 861-3960 or email: deborah.israel@piperrudnick.com.

New WBA Website Under Construction

A new and improved WBA website is now under construction. With the support of a grant from the Women's Bar Association Foundation, the WBA is building a new site that will offer an online member directory, an archive of articles about women in the law as well as substantive topics, and more! Once the site is "live" members will be able to make edits to their member record online, including uploading your personal photo for inclusion in the online directory. The site is scheduled to be completed by the end of February 2003.

WBA Members Support Children's Literacy

Several large boxes of children's books and school supplies were collected at the WBA Holiday Party in early December. The books and supplies were readily received by The Reading Connection, a Washington-based children's literacy program. We thank all who donated, as well as WBA Community Projects Co-Chairs Kimberly Brown and Bonnie Pinzel and WBA member Helen Hight for arranging the donation program.

Betsy Fisher Shopping Night a Great Success

Thanks to all of the WBA members who took time out of their busy holiday schedule to attend the Betsy Fisher shopping night on December 12th. The event raised close to \$800 for the WBA Foundation, and there was a substantial collection of professional suits and accessories collected from WBA members for the Crossway Community Shelter.

MEMBERS ON THE MOVE

Rita Bank has left Feldesman, Tucker, Liefer, Fidell & Bank after over 20 years, and has opened the Law Offices of Rita Bank, devoted exclusively to domestic relations.

WBA Past President *Jane Golden Belford* has been awarded Georgetown University Law Center's Paul R. Dean Award. The award is presented to alumni who show leadership in their professions. Belford is currently Chancellor of the Archdiocese of Washington.

Natalia Geren has moved to Reed Smith LLP as an Associate in their Import/Export Compliance and Enforcement practice. Natalia is a Co-Chair of the WBA International Law Forum, and was previously an Associate at Dyer, Ellis & Joseph.

Robin Villanueva has moved to Davis & Harman LLP. Robin was previously with Miller & Chevalier Chartered.

WBA Past President *Diana Savit* was appointed to the Women's Bar Association Foundation Board of Directors.

WBA Past President **Deborah J. Israel** was elected to the National Conference of Women's Bar Associations Board of Directors.

WBA Past President **Lucy L. Thomson,** Senior Engineer at Computer Sciences Corporation, was honored as a *Heroine in Technology* by the

March of Dimes and Women in Technology at their November 2002 Gala Annual Dinner. The honorees are leaders in the field of technology who have volunteered their time to improve the community. Lucy is a Past President of both the WBA and the WBA Foundation.

Rachel Tumidolsky has joined O'Donnell, Schwartz & Anderson, PC, where she is an Associate and counsel to the American Postal Workers Union Health Plan. Rachel was previously in-house staff counsel at Magellan Behavioral Health, Inc. in Columbia, MD.

Malpractice lawyer, *Jack Olender,* hosted the 17th Annual Olender Foundation awards at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center on December 4. Honorees included retired D.C. Court of Appeals Judge *Julia Cooper Mack;* Joan Claybrook, President of Public Citizen; the late D.C. Superior Court Judge Luke C. Moore; and Catherine Gugala, the reigning Ms. Wheelchair America.

Felice Wagner was elected President-Elect of the Legal Marketing Association.

Jennifer Maree is a new Judicial Clerk for the Maryland Special Court of Appeals. Jennifer was previously an Associate at LaPlaca MacKenzie. ■

WBA Women Corporate Counsel Reception (continued from page 1)

The WBA was pleased to partner with WMACCA on this important educational and networking program for women corporate counsel. We especially thank the event sponsors, who made it possible for us to hold the event in the beautiful setting of the National Museum of Women in the Arts.

Sponsors of the 2002 WBA Women Corporate Counsel Reception

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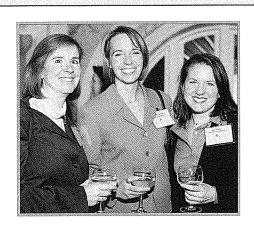
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Attendee gifts provided by CHANEL, at Lord & Taylor, Fair Oaks Mall











WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

The WBA welcomes the following new members, approved by the Board of Directors. We encourage your active involvement in the WBA and look forward to seeing you at upcoming WBA events!

Cindy Boyle
Kakoli Caprihan
Christine Waldmann Carmody
Teresa A. Gleason
Sharon Goodie
Stacey P. Herbert
Jessica Heywood
Dominique S. Johnson
Anna Kim
Laurie Kohn

Deborah Lobo

Shana L. Malinowski
Karen Turner McWilliams
Barbara M. Norman
M. Beth Peters
Shahrzad Poormosleh
Antonia Soares
Ruth E. Uy
Felice C. Wagner
Natalie Wasserman
Joanne E. Waters

CALENDAR EVENTS

January 2003

JANUARY 10 9:30 A.M. TO 11:00 A.M.

WBA Lawyers-at-Home Forum

Homelessness and What We Can Do About It Cost: Free to LAH and WBA members; \$5 non-members Location: Cleveland Park Congregational Church, 34th and Lowell Streets, NW

No rsvp is required. On-street parking is available. Direct questions to Melody Webb, at 202-484-1985.

JANUARY 15-16

National Institute for Women in Law Firms

Co-sponsored by the WBA Capital Hilton, 16th and K Streets, NW \$995 per person To register, contact Northstar Conferences, at 1-866-265-1975

JANUARY 15 6:00 P.M.

WBA Health Law Forum Happy Hour

Gordon Biersch Brewery, 9th and F Streets, NW RSVP to Rachel Tumidolsky via email: iufan@starpower.net

JANUARY 16 5:30 P.M. - 7:30 P.M.

WBA IP Forum presents

"Networking: Instruction and Practice" Program and Reception Location: Finnegan Henderson Farabow Garrett & Dunner, 1300 l Street NW

Costs: \$15 WBA members; \$20 non-members To obtain a register form, contact the WBA at (202) 639-8880.

JANUARY 21 NOON TO 1:00 P.M.

Avoiding Danger Zones

Location: The Lewis Law Firm, 805 15th Street, NW, Suite 200. Costs: \$5 WBA members; \$8 non-members.

FFRDIIARY 14

WBA Lawyers-at-Home Forum

FEBRUARY 19 WORK YOUR CAREER! NOON TO 1:30 P.M.

To register for a WBA event, call (202) 639-8880, ext. 11

Career Development Forum Lunch Program Location: Kelly Drye & Warren, LLP, 1200 19th Street, NW (Dupont Circle Metro)

Cost: \$10 WBA members; \$15 non-members. Lunch is included. To obtain a register form, contact the WBA office at (202) 639-8880.

FEBRUARY 25 NOON TO 1:00 P.M.

Alternative Dispute Resolution in Family Law Cases Location: The Lewis Law Firm, 805 15th Street, NW, Suite 200 Cost: \$5 WBA members; \$8 non-members.

March 2003

MARCH

WBA Leadership Dinners Save the Date! Details to be announced.

MARCH 28

DC Bar Annual Conference Ronald Reagan International Trade Center Contact: www.dcbar.org

May 2003

MAY 20

WBA/WBAF Annual Awards Dinner

For sponsorship information contact the WBA office at (202) 639-8880, ext. 12 Location: National Building Museum, 401 F Street, NW

February 2003

9:30 A.M. TO 11:00 A.M.

Monthly Meeting - Speaker TBA

Cost: Free to LAH and WBA members; \$5 non-members Location: Cleveland Park Congregational Church, 34th & Lowell Streets, NW No rsvp is required. On-street parking is available. Direct questions to Dorothy Patterson Lin, at 301-229-7012.



Women's Bar Association of the District of Columbia

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