



■ 1992: Cory Amron as Chair of the ABA Commission on Women in the Profession is pictured during the Commission's Margaret Brent Award event with (L. to R.) Elaine Weiss, William Falsgraf, Elaine Jones, Honorable Deanell Reece-Tacha, Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton, Lynn Hecht Schafran, Barbara Mendel Mayden, Martha Barnett and Cory Amron.

Cory Amron
2004 Woman Lawyer
of the Year
Continued on page 6.

WBA Names Cory Amron 2004 Woman Lawyer of the Year!



The Women's Bar Association (WBA) of the District of Columbia has named **Cory M. Amron**, a partner at Vorys Sater Seymour and Pease, LLP, as the 2004 Woman Lawyer of the Year. The award will be presented to Ms. Amron at the Women's Bar Association of D.C. and the Women's Bar Association Foundation Annual Awards Dinner, "From the Right to Vote... To Winning the Vote:

Women in Leadership," on Tuesday, May 18, 2004 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the National Building Museum, 401 F Street, NW. "Cory Amron is a leader for women in the legal community here in D.C. and nationwide, and is an outstanding choice for Woman Lawyer of the Year," says WBA President Paulette Chapman.

HIGHLIGHTS

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WBA RAISING THE BAR

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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

Dianne Dorlester
Executive Director

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Leaders Moving Forward

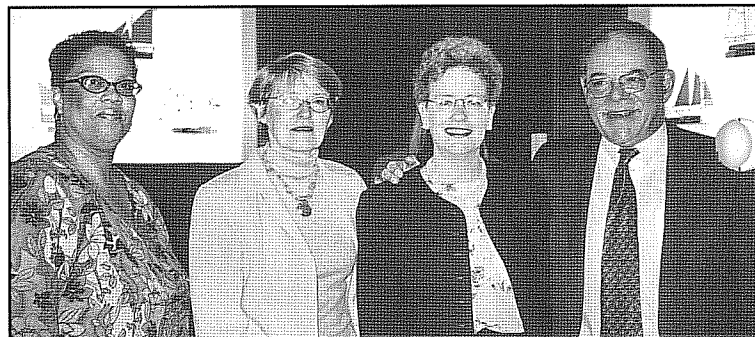
BY PAULETTE E. CHAPMAN

"80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WBA IMMIGRATION LAW FORUM"

As President of the WBA, I had the good fortune to be one of the Welcome Speakers at the United States District Court for the District of Columbia Naturalization Ceremony held in the majestic Ceremonial Courtroom. The other two speakers were the Honorable Frank Schwelb of the D.C. Court of Appeals and the Honorable Rosemary Collyer of the District Ct. Judge Collyer presided over the ceremony with warmth and grace and Judge Schwelb gave a very moving and funny account about his own immigration experience into this country at the age of seven as his family fled the Nazi oppression of the Czechs.

My comments stressed the important privilege of jury service and celebrated the WBA's 80th anniversary of the Immigration Law forum. The WBA also acknowledged the dedication of Irena Karpinsky, co-chair of the Immigration Forum. Irena has been the face of the WBA at this monthly ceremony for several years. The WBA thanks co-chair Yahne Miorini for organizing this celebration.

There were over 100 people in attendance with 60 immigrants who proudly became US Citizens that day. The range of countries represented was amazing.



Sherryl Horn, Deputy Clerk, Irena Karpinsky, WBA Co-Chair IMMIGRATION LAW FORUM, Hon. Rosemary M. Collyer, U.S. Dist. Ct. for D.C., & Hon. Frank E. Schwelb, District of Columbia Ct. of Appeals



New Citizens are all smiles at the reception with WBA Pres. Paulette Chapman.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN CONTINUED

The Receiving Line: Ellen Jakovic, Immediate Past-Pres., Hon. Frank E. Schwelb, District of Columbia Ct. of Appeals, Irena Karpinsky, Co-Chair IMMIGRATION LAW FORUM, and Paulette Chapman, WBA Pres.

At the reception after the formal ceremony, there were many handshakes, hugs, photographs and happy faces. This was such an important day. It was extremely uplifting to observe the proud intensity of these men and women as they took the oath of loyalty to the United States.

"A CONVERSATION WITH ..." SERIES IS LAUNCHED

The ability to spend "quality time" with the "Old (and the New) Girl Network" is rare. This series was inspired by the desire to tap into the wealth of experience that resides in our Past-Presidents, Sustaining Members, Women Lawyer of the Year recipients and other remarkable lawyers in an intimate, mentoring setting.

The intrepid **Betty Murphy**, partner at Baker & Hostetler, and past Woman Lawyer of the Year (1987) was the first speaker of the series. The event was sold-out, the advice was priceless, and the setting was most appropriate — the real Betty Murphy in the "Murphy Conference Room" with her likeness painted in oil hanging on the wall.

This was followed a few weeks later with Past WBA President (1989) and Past WBAF President (1993) **Jennifer Porter**, partner at Gurne, Porter & Baulig. Her eerily titled theme "*Girl Friday or Robinson Crusoe: Your Choice?*" evoked a thoughtful dialogue about the often circuitous route traveled by women lawyers as they control their professional course. Jennifer's story of her



Betty Murphy answers questions.

journey from Australia to America via trade law, diplomatic circles and regulatory law was rich in life lessons and humor about combating gender discrimination and the quest for work-life balance.

We look forward to the "Conversation with" our current District of Columbia Bar President **Shirley Higuchi** who is the perfect person to talk about "Leadership."

WBA/WBAF 2004 ANNUAL DINNER: "FROM THE RIGHT TO VOTE... TO WINNING THE VOTE" THE NEW "IRON JAWED ANGELS"

The quest for freedom from oppression and the liberty to participate in the political process is a common bond shared by the immigrants who flocked to this country and the suffragists who fought for the right to express their political will by voting. The echoes of this rich history are gleaned from the proud faces of immigrants who raise their hands to swear allegiance and from the sepia toned photographs of determined women profiled in **Eleanor Clift's** latest book, *Founding Sisters*, and the movie "Iron Jawed Angels."

There is a modern, burgeoning drumbeat for women to run for political office. In this election year, the 2004 Annual Dinner will pay homage to the "movement". As many lawyers have moved from foreign shores to the freedom of the United States, we celebrate the women's movement for greater empowerment into elected leadership. ■

Paulette E. Chapman is a partner in the personal injury litigation law firm of Koonz, McKinney, Johnson, DePaolis & Lightfoot, LLP.

COME ONE, COME ALL — CONTACT AND JOIN WBA FORUMS

CAREER DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Trish Alatorre-Ridings

COMMUNICATIONS LAW FORUM

Amy Carlson

acarlson@kilpatrickstockton.com

Susan Kimmel skimmel@fcc.gov

Terry McField T.McField@bet.net

COMMUNITY PROJECTS COMMITTEE

Linda Donaghy jfdonaghy@aol.com

Helen Hight hhight@velaw.com

Helen Hong-George

helen.hong-george@ircounsel.treas.gov

CORPORATE COUNSEL RECEPTION

Tracy Durkin tdurkin@skgf.com

Mary Legg mlegg@firmadvice.com

Bonnie Pinzel

bonnie_j_pinzel@fanniema.com

DIVERSITY FORUM

Ingrid C. Eulin ingrid.eulin@uspto.gov

EXECUTIVE AND JUDICIAL ENDORSEMENTS COMMITTEES

Tamara Ashford tashford@milchev.com

Susan Gerson susan.gerson@usdoj.gov

Janis M. Penman

jpenman@bakerlaw.com

Nikki Reeves nreeves@kslaw.com

Elizabeth Scully

escully@bakerlaw.com

FALL NETWORKING/STARS OF THE BAR

Jennifer Duane

jennifer.a.duane@mail.sprint.com

Jennifer Maree jasjen@sprynet.com

Lorelei Masters lmasters@jenner.com

*Yahne Miorini & Janet James Mahon,
Co-Chairs TAX & BUSINESS FORUM*

GOLF CLASSIC

Lisa Dunner dunnerlaw@comcast.net

Trish Alatorre-Ridings

trishalatorre-ridings@spherion.com

Gracemarie Maddelena

gracemarie_maddalena@kellylawregistry.com

GOVERNMENT ATTORNEYS FORUM

Sheryl Flum Sheryl.B.Flum@usdoj.gov

Marta Yanes Ryan

marta.yanes@ircounsel.treas.gov

Cydney Rabourn crabourn@ftc.gov

HEALTH LAW FORUM

Heidi Sorensen heidisor@hotmail.com

Rachel Tumidolsky

rtumidolsky@odsala.com

Alana Wexler

awexler@stopbreastcancer.org

IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION COMMITTEE

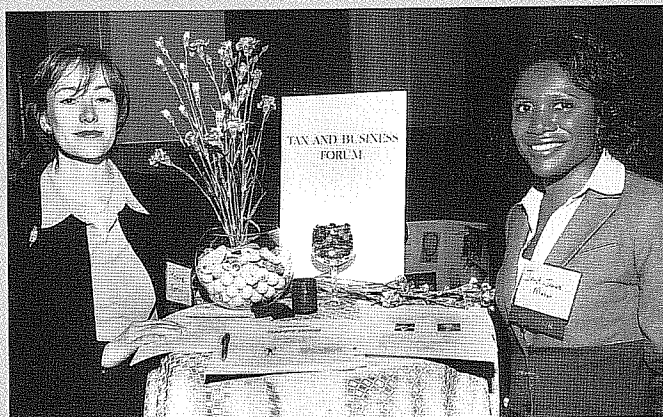
Irena I. Karpinski iiklawoffc@aol.com

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW FORUM

Linda Alcorn lalcorn@skgf.com

Rebecca McNeill

rebecca.mcneil@finnegan.com



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Co-Chair
COMMUNICATIONS LAW
FORUM*



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Natalia Geren

Susan Kovarovics skovarovics@foleylaw.comSarah Nappi snappi@milchev.com**LAWYERS AT HOME FORUM**Margaret Doty dotymoses@aol.comKathryn Horlick khorlick@aol.com**LITIGATION FORUM**Brigida Benitez brigida.benitez@wilmer.comAmy Bess abess@sonnenschein.com**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**Regina DeMeo rdemeo@lewislawfirm.com**NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS PRACTICE FORUM**Laurie Baulig lbaulig@gurnelaw.comAnn Wilson awilson@rma.org**PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE AND SPEAKERS BUREAU**Dianne Dorlester wba@wbadc.orgIlene Price ilenepriec@aol.com**SOLO AND SMALL PRACTICE FORUM**Pat Connelly pconnelly@troutrichards.comElaine Fitch efitch@kcnlaw.comFatima Fofana ffofana69@hotmail.com**TAX AND BUSINESS FORUM**Janet James Mahon jjamesmahon@aol.comYahne Miorini miorini@aol.com**WOMEN IN THE LAW CABLE TELEVISION SERIES**Nicole Streeter streetern@ghrdc.com**WORKING PARENTS FORUM**Johnine Barnes jbarnes@bakerlaw.com**YOUNG LAWYERS FORUM**Tressi Cordaro cordaro.tressi@dol.govLisa Re lr@koonz.com

Betty Murphy (center), WBA Woman Lawyer of the Year 1987, surrounded by some of the attendees and host Co-Chair Elizabeth Scully (3rd from left).

New WBA Program Series, “A Conversation With...” Starts with a Bang

By WBA Co-Chair Elizabeth Scully

On Tuesday, March 9, 2004, the WBA hosted “A Conversation With Betty Southard Murphy,” launching the first in its exciting new “A Conversation With...” series. The series provides a rare opportunity to partake in intimate conversations with some of the most exceptional and distinguished women attorneys in the District of Columbia.

For the first program, Mrs. Murphy generously shared with the guests her insights on what it takes to become a successful attorney and rainmaker in the District of Columbia. As Mrs. Murphy so wisely stated, “someone’s got to be a rainmaker, why not you.” Mrs. Murphy advised that rainmaking was not a matter of luck, but comes from having and following a plan. Two of the cornerstones of Mrs. Murphy’s plan for rainmaking success are regular and prompt client communication and active involvement in the community. Mrs. Murphy recommended that attorneys become actively involved in and chair a committee for one legal organization and one non-legal organization, for a definite period of time. She stated, you should do a good job chairing the committee, and then move on to another committee or organization. That way your contact base, knowledge and skills are continuously expanding. Following Mrs. Murphy’s presentation, the guests had an opportunity to engage in an open and lively discussion with Mrs. Murphy. Mrs. Murphy’s presentation and her conversation with the guests truly set the bar for this new series.

Mrs. Murphy is a partner at the law firm of Baker & Hostetler LLP, where she handles all kinds of labor and employment matters in the U.S. and abroad. She is the only person to have served as both the Chairman of the National Labor Relations Board and Administrator of Wage & Hour, U.S. Department of Labor. The D.C. Bar Association has honored her as one of “Legends in the Law,” recognizing her prominence and individual impact on the law and the legal profession. ■

AMRON NAMED WOMAN LAWYER OF THE YEAR! CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Ms. Amron is the Chair of the Technology and Intellectual Property group at Vorys. She has been active in both national and local bar and professional activities. She served as Chair of the ABA Commission on Women in the Profession from 1991–1994, was a member of the ABA Commission on Domestic Violence, and currently serves as a member of the ABA Presidential Advisory Council on Diversity. Ms. Amron is the immediate past Chair of the D.C. Fellows of the American Bar Foundation.

Among her many other accomplishments, Ms. Amron was a member of the District of Columbia's Reproductive Cancer Task Force, a Chairperson of the Bar Association of D.C.'s Young Lawyers Section, a member of the Board of Directors of the Women's Bar Association of the District of Columbia and a member of the Board of Directors of the Bar Association of D.C. According to **Past-WBA President Elizabeth Medaglia**, Senior Director at Jackson &

Campbell, PC, "I have known Cory professionally and personally for almost 25

years. She is a fantastic choice for Women Lawyer of the Year because she is brilliant, dedicated and extraordinarily selfless with her time."

Medaglia concludes, "She is truly an amazing woman."

Ms. Amron has written and edited numerous publications on intellectual property, professional development and diversity issues and is a frequent speaker on intellectual property matters and on topics relating to women lawyers and bar leadership. She graduated from the University of Rochester, with distinction, in 1974, and received her JD degree in 1977 from Harvard Law School.



■ Cory Amron, Elizabeth Medaglia, & Judith Richards Hope all honored as WBA "Stars of the Bar 2004"

Q&A with Cory Amron, 2004 Woman Lawyer of the Year

"Cory

has made great contributions

both to the legal profession and to the American Bar Association. As Chair of the Commission on Women in the Profession, she gave generously of her time and talents to highlight the many challenges facing women lawyers. Because of her leadership on women's issues, women in our profession are making substantial advancements, but we still must work to level the playing field. Through her years of service in the organized bar, Cory exemplifies the ideal of lawyers giving back to their communities," states Dennis W. Archer, President, American Bar Association.

1. How do you feel about being selected for this honor?

I am so honored to be presented with the Women Lawyer of the Year Award from the WBA. As the first and only women lawyer in my firm in 1977, I couldn't locate another women attorney for an entire year! But I found the WBA, and through this organization acquired life time friends and a great web of support. I have gotten tremendous satisfaction from my volunteer work on behalf of women and women lawyers and I am humbled to be recognized for just giving back to this community.

2. As Chair of the Commission on Women in the Profession from 1991–1994, are there themes and issues that were identified then that still resonate now?

The intervening 13 years since I chaired the Commission, I have seen many improvements in the lives of women lawyers,

and yet there is so much more that we need to accomplish. Narrow doors that admitted so few women have opened wide, but in many job settings (and particularly for women of color) it's still a lonely trail to the top. The issue of overt sexual harassment — the blazing issue as I took over the Chair of the Commission — has largely been addressed, but the struggle of women with families particularly those working alternative schedules overshadows many careers. These women are trying to maintain the respect of their colleagues, the momentum of their careers, and their sanity. But throughout these years, it is reassuring to see that the level of energy that women have exerted to better their lives has remained as high and as strong as our enthusiasm to celebrate women's achievements.

3. You have served the voluntary bars at both the local and national level. What advice would you give associates about bar service?

Get involved in the women's bar and in the Young Lawyers Division of the ABA, even if you have to take all your vacation time to do it (which I did). It will reap rewards 100-fold. The YLD and the WBA are platforms for working on any number of rewarding issues, from pro bono, to leadership, to women's and political issues. Not only will you have the opportunity to hone skills that won't be tested for years at your job, but in the process you will build a network of friends who will support your career, help you see the country, make referrals and ensure that you have a lot of fun.

4. What projects are you currently interested and involved in?

Right now I serve on the ABA Presidential Advisory Council on Diversity in the Profession chaired by Kay Hodge, and head the Legal Education Subcommittee of that group. We are trying to widen the pipeline of persons of color who might be interested in law school. We are looking at programs focusing on college, high school and earlier grades that encourage students to think about being lawyers. I am also a member of the ABA Out of the Box Committee of the Section of Legal Education which is considering issues of law schools of the future. I serve on the Diversity Subcommittee which, together with the other subgroups, wrote a paper for the Journal of Legal Education, and are hosting a conference in April in Dallas on Critical Choices: Educating the Next Generation of Lawyers. Lastly, for the Bar Association of D.C., I serve on the Quality of Life Committee and we are currently soliciting employers to be considered for the Constance Belfiore Quality of Life Award in June. ■

Meet the WBA International Forum

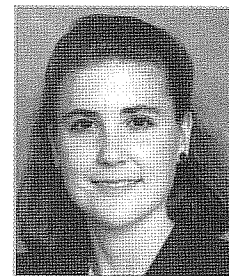
The International Forum of the Women's Bar Association of the District of Columbia seeks to educate members about current topics in the field of international law and practice. To this end, the International Forum has hosted events related to the U.S.-Chile Free Trade Agreement, U.S.-Mexico relations, Customs enforcement of intellectual property rights, and recent developments in immigration law, among others. In addition, the International Forum seeks to provide opportunities for networking and career advancement in the area of international law and to support members in their professional growth, including through our participation in the WBA's Leadership Summit. The co-chairs of the International Forum are Natalia Geren, Susan Kovarovics and Sarah Nappi.



Natalia Geren

Natalia Geren is an Associate with Reed Smith. Natalia's practice focuses on government contracts and international trade matters. Her experience includes counseling clients regarding export control and export compliance matters; international trade sanctions and embargoes; and regulation of imports under Customs laws. She has also counseled clients in bid protest matters, claims before the Court of Federal Claims, and conducted internal investigations and disclosures to the Government in a variety of matters relating to international trade and government contracting issues.

Susan Kovarovics is Senior Counsel with Foley & Lardner. She counsels clients in the areas of export and defense trade controls, trade sanctions, customs, antiboycott and the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act. Susan designs and implements compliance programs, conducts internal investigations, counsels clients regarding voluntary disclosure matters, conducts FCPA due diligence reviews and represents clients in connection with enforcement proceedings.



Susan Kovarovics



Sarah Nappi

Sarah Nappi is Counsel at Miller & Chevalier, and focuses her practice on customs law. She advises clients on various customs issues including tariff classification, valuation, and country of origin marking, and has worked extensively with clients undergoing compliance audits and self-assessments. In addition, she has assisted clients charged with customs violations, counseled on filing prior disclosures, and assisted in customs litigation before the U.S. Court of International Trade. Sarah is also a licensed customs broker.

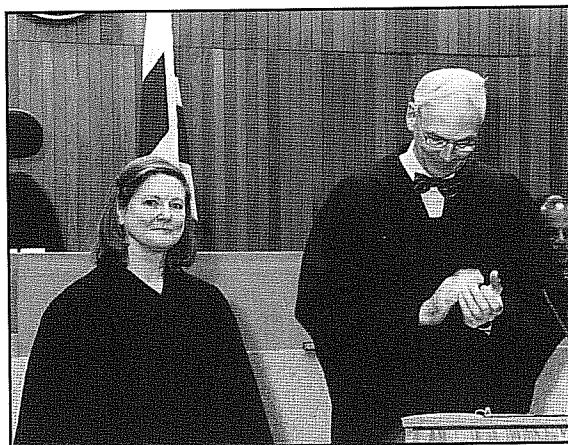
For more information or to join the WBA International Forum, visit the Committee and Forums page at www.wbadc.org. ■

Brenneman Becomes a Member of the Bench

On February 20th the Superior Court for the District of Columbia welcomed into its ranks Diane Brenneman, one of the WBA's most highly regarded members. Magistrate Judge Brenneman's investiture was presided over by Chief Judge Rufus King with testimonial remarks from Mark Levine, Diane's former partner, and Paulette Chapman, WBA President.

Judge Brenneman said "I am ever so thankful for the opportunity to serve and in my case it took several villages to raise this judge."

It was standing room only as a crowd of over 100 well-wishers from the Women's Bar, the Family Law section and the Court cheered Diane while her husband, Lyle, her children and grandchildren proudly watched. After the formal ceremony, guests mingled at a New Orleans style reception complete with a jazz band. ■



■ A robed Magistrate Judge Brenneman applauded by Chief Judge and over 100 attendees.



■ WBA Pres. Paulette Chapman and Diane celebrate.



■ Chief Judge Rufus King III swears in Magistrate Judge Diane Brenneman as Diane's husband Lyle Brenneman looks on.



■ WBA Board Member Tracy Durkin congratulates Diane Brenneman.

PHOTOS BY BEVERLY REZNECK

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KELLY
SERVICES

GOING 'IN-HOUSE' TO GET A LIFE:

Lawyers Find Strategy for Avoiding Notorious Long Hours to Be Less Than Certain

By Professor Joan Williams, Cynthia Thomas Calvert, and Holly Cohen Cooper

Attorneys who resist the lure of a lucrative law firm partnership for the more manageable schedules of in-house legal positions are finding that long hours are not the exclusive domain of firms, according to a new study on work/life balance released today by the Project for Attorney Retention (PAR) at American University Washington College of Law.

The authors of *Better on Balance? The Corporate Counsel Work/Life Report* conclude that the long workweeks of some in-house legal departments make it difficult to balance work and personal obligations, contrary to the stereotype that going in house guarantees short hours. "If it was ever true that in-house work guaranteed attorneys a comfortable 9-to-5 schedule, it is certainly not true now," says Joan Williams, professor of law at American University Washington College of Law. The study authors further conclude, however, that many in-house lawyers do work shorter schedules than do attorneys in firms, and that in-house attorneys often are better able to control their workloads to meet their family or other needs.

The PAR research team, led by Professor Williams and attorneys Cynthia Thomas Calvert and Holly Cohen Cooper, conducted in-depth interviews, focus groups and surveys from 2001 to 2003 to learn about work/life balance for in-house attorneys. Many male and female attorneys have left law firms to go to corporate law departments, a trend documented by the National Association of Law Placement. Corporate law department positions are often seen as a haven from the grueling demands of trying to make partner during peak childbearing and childrearing years.

Are in-house legal positions the solution to work/family conflict they are believed to be? It depends on the type of law department. Some corporate law departments, in what the report calls the "corporate" and "balance-supportive" models, provide reasonable hours and flexibility. Firms in the "law firm model," on the other hand, operate virtually identically to law firms, without the large drop-off of partnership down the road. "The bottom line," says Williams, "is caveat counselor: attorneys cannot assume that, by going in-house, they will achieve better work/life balance."

"*Better on Balance?*" warns that corporate law departments may begin to lose lawyers to, ironically, those law firms that have suc-

cessfully addressed work/life balance. Corporate law departments often have family-friendly policies on paper but privately discourage lawyers from using them. This is a short-sighted practice that will make it harder for law departments to recruit and retain good attorneys, Williams says, particularly female and minority attorneys.

Other key findings include:

- **Part-time work is used less frequently and may be more stigmatized in corporate law departments than in law firms.** Part-time attorneys in law departments are often the first to be fired when new general counsel are hired, are given 'dog' assignments, receive bonuses less frequently than attorneys on standard schedules, and are evaluated more critically.

- **Job sharing is a viable model for in-house legal work.** In a job-share position, two attorneys share the job

but not a workload (the "islands model") or share a position *and* a workload (the "twins model"). The report details how the job-share partners make their arrangement work.

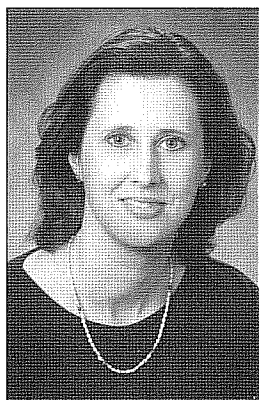
- **In-house attorneys, as clients, typically do not object to working with law firm attorneys on part-time schedules.** In its study of part-time work at law firms (*Balanced Hours: Effective Part-Time Policies for Washington Law Firms*, available at www.pardc.org), PAR learned that many law firm managing partners believe their clients would not want to work with part-time attorneys. *Better on Balance?* reports that clients generally perceive little difference between working with a full-time attorney who is handling many cases."

To read these and other findings, including best practice recommendations, download the report at www.pardc.org or at www.worklifelaw.org. For details on the report or to schedule interviews with the report authors, contact Mary Still, Program Director, American University Washington College of Law Program on WorkLife Law, 202-274-4299, or e-mail: mcsstill@WCL.american.edu. For media assistance, contact Kathy Thompson, AU WCL Public Relations, 202-274-4279; Cell Phone: 703-855-5556; or e-mail: kthomp@WCL.american.edu. ■



■ PAR Research Team (l. to r.) Cynthia Thomas Calvert, Professor Joan Williams and Holly Cohen Cooper

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COLUMN



by Dianne Dorlester

On March 11 and 12, 2004, I attended the ABA's Bar Leadership Institute in Chicago, along with WBA President-Elect Joanne Young. We joined more than 300 of our cohorts from bar associations across the country for two days of workshops dedicated to enhancing our leadership skills.

When speaking with my counterparts from bars in other states, I was reminded how fortunate the WBA is to have such an active and passionate group of leaders who are, I'm convinced, without parallel. I was proud to hear from other executive directors that they were amazed with the level of activity and accomplishments of the WBA. The number and quality of forum programs, the size of our Showcase Events and the resources shared among WBA colleagues far exceed those of many other women's bars. In the short time I have served as your executive director, I too have been amazed.

On May 18, we will all gather for the 2004 Annual Awards Dinner, "From the Right to Vote... To Winning the Vote: Women in Leadership" at the National Building Museum. Not only will this elite event allow us to acknowledge the best of the best among us, it should remind each of us that in one capacity or another, we are all leaders. Many are leaders within the WBA and the WBA Foundation; others are leaders to their firm's junior colleagues; some are leaders within their community; and all are leaders in the pursuit of the administration of justice.

By continuing to harness the collective talent and leadership of our members, the impact your Women's Bar Association may have on the legal profession, on the political process and on the Washington, D.C. community is boundless. I look forward to serving each of the 1,300 leaders who comprise the WBA membership as we continue to evolve toward becoming the largest, most active and most recognized women's bar in the country. ■

CELEBRATING OUR PAST

Notes from March & April Minutes of the WBA Board of Directors

MARCH 29, 1934

A special meeting was called for the purpose of determining what action should be taken by the WBA in response to statements made by Mr. Leslie C. Garnett, US Attorney for the District of Columbia, to the Washington Post on March 24, 1934. The following is an excerpt from that article:

"As wives, sweethearts and secretaries, women are fine," said the district attorney, genially but firmly. "But there is no place for them in this office." But the women are still hopeful, and Mrs. Elizabeth Harris, member of the committee appointed by the Women's Bar Association to win Mr. Garnett over, yesterday said confidently: "We hope to have a favorable report the first of the week."

APRIL 4, 1934

The WBA board adopted a resolution calling for the President of the United States to "relieve Mr. Garnett of the duties of the office of US Attorney, and to appoint to the said office a person who will respect the laws, and the rights of those licensed by the said District to engage in the legal profession."

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

I hereby apply for regular (associate*) membership in the Women's Bar Association of the District of Columbia.

(a) I was born in 1899, was originally admitted to practice law at Washington D.C. in the year 1938, and am now a member in good standing of the bar of District of Col.

(b) I have received the following degrees:
L.L.B. National University 1937
 Degree School Year

I enclose \$5.00 dues for one year.†

NAME { Miss Cecil M. Roeder
 { Mrs.

Office Address U.S. Housing Auth. Telephone _____ Br. _____

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WBA CANDIDATES FOR THE 2004 ELECTIONS

*The WBA Nominations Committee
submits the following slate of
candidates (listed in random order) for
the 2004–2005 Fiscal Year.*

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Secretary:
Ingrid C. Eulin
Janet James Mahon

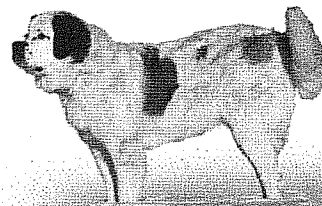
Treasurer-Elect:
Maureen Kerrigan

Directors:
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Bonnie J. Pinzel
Lorelie S. Masters
Kathleen Behan
Natalia Geren

2-year positions (two positions open):
Angela Fisher Jaffee
Susan Kovarovics
Linda Alcorn
Mary W. Legg

1-year position (one position open):
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WBA MOURNS LOSS OF ACTIVIST

Fern L. Holland, former attorney at the firm of **Woodley & McGillivray**, a labor law firm in downtown D.C., was killed in Iraq on March 11, 2004. Holland, 33, spent much of her time with the occupation authority promoting women's political empowerment. She helped draft sections of the Iraqi interim constitution intended to ensure a role for women in the country's evolving system of governance, relatives and colleagues said. "She lived a life of commitment that many think about but few do," states WBA President Paulette Chapman.

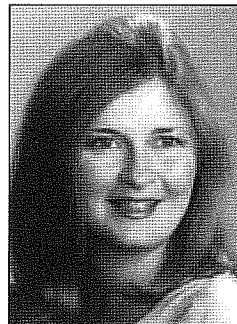
Leading feminists have paid tribute to the work of Fern Holland to advance women's rights in Iraq. Eleanor Smeal, the President of the Feminist Majority Foundation, stated "Fern Holland made the supreme sacrifice for women's rights. It is because of her work and the work of the Iraqi women that women in Iraq do have equal rights in the interim law. I am humbled by this tragic loss and feel the deepest gratitude for her tireless work, passion and dedication to women's rights."

Source: *Washington Post*

MEMBERS ON THE MOVE

Marna S. Tucker received the 2004 Robert F. Drinan Award for Distinguished Service to the ABA Section of Individual Rights and Responsibilities. She was honored in a ceremony on February 6 during the ABA Midyear Meeting in San Antonio, Texas. Marna is a past WBA Woman Lawyer of the Year in 1985.

The law firm of **Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP** has appointed **Janet Fries** as counsel to the firm effective February 1, 2004. **Janet Fries** of the firm's Washington, D.C. office practices in the Intellectual Property Group. Her practice focuses on copyright, trademark, entertainment and Internet law. Ms. Fries earned her undergraduate degree from Smith College and a Master's degree from San Francisco University. She received her law degree with honors from George Washington University National Law Center.



Joanne W. Young, a partner in the Washington law firm of **Baker & Hostettler LLP** and WBA President-Elect, has been elected **president of the International Aviation Women's Association (IAWA)** for the 2004 and 2005 terms. IAWA, a prestigious organization of business and professional women who hold senior positions in the aviation and aerospace industries also announced its newly elected Board of Directors to serve for the two-year period. ■

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Community Projects Forum Lunchtime Volunteer Events

BY LINDA DONAGHY, CPF CO-CHAIR

Do you want to do something for your community but don't know where to start or how to fit volunteer service into your overloaded schedule? The WBA Community Projects Forum has the answer — our "Lunchtime Volunteer Series." We are organizing a continuing series of work and/or information sessions with local and national charities. These sessions are held during the lunch hour and are in locations that are convenient for many of our members who work in the downtown area. Our most recent such event was a meeting with the United Cerebral Palsy Association (UCP) at their national headquarters on L Street, N.W.

The UCP is one of the largest health charities in America, with a mission to advance the independence, productivity, and full citizenship of people with cerebral palsy and other disabilities. The national organization works with and through its 100+ local affiliates located throughout the U.S. to provide information, advocacy and direct services to over 30,000 children and adults with cerebral palsy and other disabilities each day (in fact, 65% of the people UCP serves has a disability other than cerebral palsy).

Also at the meeting were representatives of The Arc, the largest volunteer-based organization in the United States devoted solely to working on behalf of people with mental retardation and related disabilities. The

Arc and UCP have recently formed a formal Public Policy Collaboration to advocate legislative solutions for what they describe as "vast unmet needs" of mentally and physically disabled citizens. Those needs include: more accessible and affordable housing; Medicaid eligibility issues; accommodation issues and employment rights in general; voting difficulties; and possible tax credits for caregivers.

UCP and the Public Policy Collaboration are putting together a legal advocacy committee that needs volunteer attorneys to do things such as review briefs in cases in which the organizations are asked to participate on an amicus basis; and help develop legislative proposals and testimony. If you are interested in working with UCP and its Public Policy Collaboration on these projects, please call: Marty Ford, Director Legal Advocacy, at 202-783-2229, or Janna Starr, Director Disability Rights and Technology Policy at 202-973-7128.

Our Lunchtime Volunteer Series will continue in the next few months with work sessions at the Multiple Sclerosis Society, the Metropolitan/Delta Literacy Council, and the March of Dimes. Please watch for announcements of these events, and come out and join us!

For more information or to join the WBA Community Projects Forum, visit the Committee and Forums page at www.wbadc.org. The co-chairs are: **Linda Donaghy, Helen Hight, and Helen Hong-George.** ■

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WBA/WBAF 2004 EVENT CALENDAR

Join your WBA friends and colleagues at these great events! Visit www.wbadc.org for program details and to register.

April 15, 2004

12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Ober Kaler, 1401 H Street, NW, Suite 500

Delegating: How to Get More Accomplished

Join the WBA Health Law Forum for this brown bag luncheon featuring Sheree Kanner, Partner, Hogan & Hartson and former Chief Counsel to the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) in the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

April 21, 2004

6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Kirkpatrick & Lockhart, 1800 Massachusetts Avenue, NW

Eight-Minute Mentoring

Presented by MCCA in partnership with the WBA Diversity Forum, this program will provide those who are looking to be a mentor or looking for a mentor, the opportunity to meet professionals within the MCCA network.

April 29, 2004

12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Location TBD.

Nonprofit Organizations Practice Forum Meeting

May 10, 2004

Time, location TBD.

The WBA Communication Law Forum presents

Work/Life Balance Program in partnership with FCBA & WICT

* * *

May 18, 2004

6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

National Building Museum, 401 F Street, NW

WBA & WBAF Annual Awards Dinner

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* As of March 30, 2004

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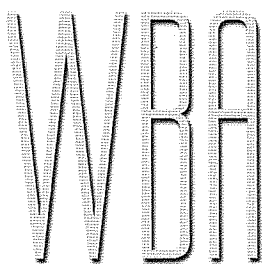
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