

Profile of Marian Burnbaum Newest Member of NYWBA Foundation Board of Directors

Marian Burnbaum has recently been elected to the Board of the New York Women's Bar Association Foundation. She is an attorney who has worn many hats. An alumna of Barnard College and Fordham University School of Law, Marian practiced law in small firms and as a sole practitioner. In 1987, she became an administrator and educator at New York University, designing programs in finance, law, taxation and paralegal studies.

While at NYU, Marian joined a fellow faculty member, Ron Thomas, in creating the Small Business Forum radio programs which was broadcast on WNYE-FM from 1993 to 2001. The radio program received the 1998 Vision 2000 Award from the U.S. Small Business Administration. The purpose of the Small Business Forum was to educate small business owners on successful techniques to grow their businesses.

She moved on to a deanship at Mercy College. She now teaches law and coordinates the internship program in the Law and Public Service House of Washington Irving High School in Manhattan.

Although Marian enjoyed many aspects of private practice, she had a particular interest in using her legal education to help shape positive change - and being an educator has allowed her to do just that. On this subject she has commented: "I have found that the greatest positive impact I can have on society is to contribute to the education of others." Marian chose the New York City school system for this purpose -- and she believes that it is fertile ground for lawyers: "One way to improve the image of the legal system and attorneys is to involve more lawyers in the public high schools. Many of our students have had negative experiences with the legal system and need to understand that members of the bar actually care about them -- and want to help them understand the legal system and how to handle problems in a more successful way."

Marian has expressed her enthusiasm for the work of NYWBA, and says that she is honored to serve on the Board of Directors of the NYWBA Foundation, and sees it as an additional opportunity to mentor public high school students. The Foundation invited high school students to its November event at the Harvard Club, where students met and mingled with women lawyers who are role models. Activities like these can literally change the way a student can view the legal profession and the way they view themselves. Opportunities like this can help a student envision a successful future.

We welcome Marian to the NYWBA Foundation Board, where we know she will have a positive and creative influence.

NOTES ON MEMBERS

Congratulations to NYWBA member **Jennifer A. Covell** who gave birth to twin girls, Emma and Caitlin, on September 16, 2003..... The Association is saddened to report that Mary Ann McKale, mother of immediate Past President **Heather Martínez Zona**, passed away in December. Ms. McKale attended many of our functions and will be missed. Donations may be made in Ms. McKale's memory to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, P. O. Box 650309, Dallas, TX 75265-0309 or by phone at 888-888-3317.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

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