

NYWBA

NEW YORK WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION

NYWBA FOUNDATION BREAKFAST SPEAKER SERIES

featuring

Honorable Nancy Gertner

U.S. District Judge, District of Mass., retired

Judge **Nancy Gertner**, a Professor of Practice at Harvard Law School and winner of the 2008 Thurgood Marshall Award of the American Bar Association, will speak about gender and the legal profession and her new book, *In Defense of Women: Memoirs of an Unrepentant Advocate*, reflecting on her work as a criminal defense and civil rights lawyer before she joined the Federal bench.

When: Monday, May 20, 2013, 8:00 to 9:30 A.M.

Where: The Cornell Club, 6 E. 44th St., NYC
(between Fifth and Madison Avenues)

Cost: \$75 per person* (in advance or for student tickets)
\$85 per person at the door (subject to availability)

RSVP: www.brownpapertickets.com/event/373190

Info: For info about the Foundation or its Speaker Series, contact Foundation President Karen Mitchell, Esq. (kmm32@cornell.edu).

***Special Opportunity:** Give inspiration and aspirations. Your purchase of additional student ticket(s) at the above price will give pupils from Washington Irving High School's Law and Public Service Program with a proven interest in law to attend, meet attorneys, and be inspired.

NYWBA Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charity. The fair market value of breakfast is \$30; donations in excess of \$30 for member, non-member and student tickets are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law.

WOMEN'S BAR ASSN. OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

Annual Convention

featuring installation of NYWBA member **Amy Saltzman** as a WBASNY Officer, and presentation of Marilyn Menge Award to NYWBA Past President **Elizabeth A. Bryson**

June 7-9, 2013 – Philadelphia, PA

(see announcement & sponsorship info, p. 6)

NEW YORK WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION

Annual Awards & Installation Dinner

with the presentation of the President's Special Award to **Hon. A. Gail Prudenti** and the Doris S. Hoffman Service Award to **Hon. Sheila Abdus-Salaam**, recognition of the **Women Justices of the First Department**, and the installation of President **Hon. Jacqueline W. Silbermann**

Wednesday, June 26, 2013

(see announcement & sponsorship info, p. 11)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Reflecting on Our Extraordinary Year

MAY 2013



Hon. Jacqueline W.
Silbermann

As the end of my first term as President of this august group approaches, I find it is a time for reflection.

This has been a remarkable year for our Association. Two of our long-time members, Hon. Judith J. Gische and Hon. Paul G. Feinman, were appointed as Associate Justices of the Appellate Division, First Department, and another long-time member, Hon. Sheila Abdus-Salaam, has been nominated to serve as an Associate Judge of the New York Court of Appeals. With Justice Abdus-Salaam's elevation, coupled with that of Hon. Jenny Rivera, the Court of Appeals will once again have a majority of women presiding. Kudos to all of these wonderful jurists.

I trust you have been reading our excellent Newsletters, which have been published with much greater frequency this year, and that you have been a regular visitor to our website. Even if you have just scanned these member resources, you have seen how active our committees have been, and the many programs being presented on a wide array of subjects each and every month (many of which offer CLE credits free to members). There have

(Continued on Page 2)

Announcements & Calendar of Upcoming Events:

- 5/6 - Lunch with a New York County Surrogate Court Judge - p. 2
 - 5/7 - Extraordinary Kids - Special Needs Children in Divorce Cases - p. 8
 - 5/8 - Women's Rights in Islamic World After Arab Spring - p. 10
 - 5/9 - End of Life Care: The Hospice & Palliative Care Experience - p. 5
 - 5/13 - CLE - Persuasive Writing for Lawyers - p. 6
 - 5/14 - Working Parents Committee Brown Bag Lunch Meeting - p. 2
 - 5/15 - Programs & Events Committee Meeting - p. 3
 - 5/16 - CLE - NYSBA/NYWBA Starting a Practice in New York City - p. 3
 - 5/20 - NYWBA Foundation Breakfast featuring Hon. Nancy Gertner - p. 1
 - 5/21 - Solo & Small Firm Committee Networking Dinner - p. 6
 - 6/5 - The Matrimonial & Family Law Cases on Appeal - p. 10
 - 6/7 to 6/9 - WBASNY Annual Convention (includes CLE) - pp. 1, 6
 - 6/18 - CLE - Avoiding Ethical Pitfalls in Criminal Cases - p. 8
 - 6/20 - CLE - Sex Trafficking (Legal Aid, NYWBA, Brooklyn WBA) - p. 9
 - 6/26 - NYWBA Annual Awards & Installation Dinner - p. 1, 11
- Check www.nywba.org for more Meetings, Programs & Events.

NYWBA Trusts & Estates Committee

presents

"Lunch with a New York Surrogate Judge"

The Trusts and Estates Committee is proud to join the NYWBA's "Lunch with a Judge" Series, where you can learn from the real-world experience of sitting jurists. This edition of the series will be of particular import to trusts and estates practitioners.

Meet Honorable Rita Mella,
Surrogate, County of New York

- Date:** Monday, May 6, 2013, 1:00 p.m.
(Event will begin promptly; be sure to allot sufficient time to get through court security.)
- Place:** NY Surrogate's Court, 31 Chambers Street, Courtroom 503, NYC (corner of Centre St.)
- Cost:** Program is free, but space is limited, so please send your RSVP promptly. Priority will be given to NYWBA and WBASNY Chapter members.*
- RSVP:** Send name & contact info for all attendees to Executive Director Karen Lu at ED@nywba.org. (If you later have to cancel, please notify us, so we can release your seat.)
- NOTE:** This is a "brown bag" event, so bring your own lunch. **Discussion of pending cases at this event is prohibited.**

* If you are not a current member, go to www.nywba.org/Membership to join or renew using our secure online membership form. If you are a member of another Chapter, please indicate that in your RSVP.

NYWBA Working Parents Committee

"Brown Bag Lunch Meeting"

The Committee will discuss topics of interest to members and make further plans for 2013-2014. All NYWBA members and prospective members are welcome.

- Date:** Tuesday, May 14, 2013, 12:30 p.m.
- Place:** MetLife Building, 200 Park Avenue, NYC
[Go to 40th floor and call Christine Harman at 212-578-7647 (office) or 201-704-9109 (cell) to be admitted through glass doors.]
- RSVP:** Notify Co-Chair Christina Harman (212-578-7647 or WPrsvp@nywba.org) so your name is on the Building Security list.

If you cannot attend but are interested in joining the Committee, send your contact info and any ideas for future programs and events to the Co-Chairs at WPChairs@nywba.org.

The Committee thanks **MetLife** for hosting.

President's Message (Continued from Page 1)

also been several fun events, including a wine & cheese tasting last fall, and opening night at the New York City Ballet on April 30 with an exclusive backstage tour by a company dancer. Other fun evenings are being planned, including a fashion event and reception to welcome new members.

I am also pleased that our Judiciary Committee was revitalized in 2012-2013. The Committee interviewed and rated judicial candidates for last year's primaries and general elections for Civil and Supreme Court, and it is organizing now to screen this year's judiciary candidates. This takes a great deal of time and effort, and we owe all the members of this Committee our thanks. It is important to the prestige of our organization and the integrity of the process that we are once again at the forefront of reviewing and rating judicial candidates.

As we transition in June from 2012-2013 to 2013-2014, several other major events are taking place or being planned, including the WBASNY Convention on June 7-9, our Annual Awards and Installation Dinner on June 26, and the Annual "Summer Program" on July 10.

Since our last Newsletter, NYWBA Officer **Amy Saltzman** was elected Recording Secretary of WBASNY, and she will be installed at the Convention. Past President **Elizabeth A. Bryson** will also be presented with WBASNY's Marilyn Menge Award. *(See announcement and sponsorship info, p. 6.)*

At the Dinner, we will present *The President's Special Award to Hon. A. Gail Prudenti*, Chief Administrative Judge of the State of New York, the *Doris S. Hoffman Service Award to Hon. Sheila Abdus-Salaam*, and we will recognize the female **Justices of the Appellate Division, First Department**. We are thrilled that the First Department reached the milestone earlier this year of having an equal number of male and female Associate Justices. *(See announcement and sponsorship info, p. 11.)*

At the Summer Program, we will present our annual forum on "What It's REALLY Like to Practice Law as a Woman," our award-winning program designed to provide career guidance to law students, law school graduates awaiting admission and attorneys in their first few years of practice. *(See website calendar for July 10, 2013.)*

I hope you will join us at these premier events and that you, and your firms, colleagues and vendors, will buy tables, become sponsors and/or submit Journal ads and tributes to support the NYWBA Annual Dinner and the WBASNY Convention.

It has been a wonderful year. I am grateful for the aid and support of our distinguished Officers, Directors, and Committee Chairs, and I anticipate that the coming year will be even better. I thank you for having entrusted me to be your President and to have asked me to serve another term. I am deeply honored.



COMMITTEE NEWS

- The **Criminal Law and Litigation Committees** will present a CLE Program on **May 13** at 6:00 p.m. on "*Persuasive Writing for Lawyers*" at Newman Ferrara LLP, 1250 Broadway (see notice, p. 6). Email CrimLawRSVP@nywba.org to RSVP. The **Criminal Law** and **Ethics Committees** will present a CLE program on **June 18** at 6:00 p.m. on "*Avoiding Ethical Pitfalls in Criminal Law Practice*" at Frankfurt Kurnit Klein & Selz PC, 488 Madison Ave. (see notice, p. 8). The **Criminal Law** and **Domestic Violence Committees** and the **Brooklyn Women's Bar Assn.** will co-sponsor a CLE program on "*Sex Trafficking*" presented by the Legal Aid Society on **June 20** (see notice, p. 9).
 - The **Domestic Violence** and **Criminal Law Committees** and the **Brooklyn Women's Bar Association** will co-sponsor a free CLE program on "*Sex Trafficking*" presented by the Legal Aid Society on **June 20** (see notice, p. 9).
 - The **Elder Law & Disabilities Committee** will present a program on **May 9** at 6:00 p.m. on "*End of Life Care: Wishes Wants and Needs, Hospice and Palliative Care Experience*" at Newman Ferrara LLP, 1250 Broadway, 27th Fl. (see notice, p. 5). Email ElderLawChairs@nywba.org to RSVP.
 - The **International Women's Rights Committee**, **NYWBA** and **WBASNY** are co-sponsoring a New York City Bar forum on **May 8** at 6:30 p.m. on "*Women's Rights in the Islamic World After the Arab Spring*" at the NYC Bar, 42 West 44th St. (btw 5th & 6th Ave's.) (see notice, p. 10).
 - The **Litigation and Criminal Law Committees** will present a CLE Program on **May 13** at 6:00 p.m. on "*Persuasive Writing for Lawyers*" at Newman Ferrara LLP, 1250 Broadway (see notice, p. 6). Email CrimLawRSVP@nywba.org to RSVP.
 - The **Matrimonial and Family Law Committee** will co-sponsor a program on **May 7** at 6:00 p.m. on "*Extraordinary Issues for Extraordinary Kids: A Primer on the Issues Involved When Confronted with Special Needs Children in Divorce*" at the NYC Bar, 42 West 44th St. (see notice and RSVP instructions on p. 8). The Committee will present "*The Matrimonial & Family Law Cases on Appeal*" on **June 5** at 6:00 p.m. at Blank Rome LLP, The Chrysler Building, 405 Lexington Ave. (see notice, p. 10). Email MFRsvp@nywba.org to RSVP.
 - The **Professional Ethics & Discipline Committee** will present a CLE with the **Criminal Law Committee** on **June 18** at 6:00 p.m. on "*Avoiding Ethical Pitfalls in Criminal Law Practice*" at Frankfurt Kurnit Klein & Selz PC, 488 Madison Ave. (see notice, p. 8).
 - The **Program & Events Committee** will meet on **May 15** at 6 p.m. to continue event planning for 2013-2014. Email Events@nywba.org for location & to RSVP.
 - The **Solo and Small Firm Practice Committee** will hold a celebratory "*Networking Dinner*" on **May 21** at 6:30 p.m. at Patsy's Pizzeria, 801 Second Ave. (see notice, p. 6). Email SSFchairs@nywba.org to RSVP.
 - The **Trusts and Estates Committee** will continue the NYWBA's "*Lunch with a Judge*" Series on **May 6** at 1:00 p.m. with **Hon. Rita Mella**, Surrogate, County of New York, at the Surrogate's Court, 31 Chambers St., Courtroom 503 (see notice, p. 2). Email Executive Director Karen Lu at ED@nywba.org to RSVP.
 - The **Working Parents Committee** has scheduled two "*Brown Bag Lunch Meetings*," both at 12:30 p.m. - on **May 14** at MetLife, MetLife Building, 200 Park Ave., 40th Fl. (see notice, p. 2 & contact Co-Chair Christine Harman [charman@MetLife.com; 212-578-7647] to RSVP); and on **June 11** at Berkman Bottger Newman & Rodd, LLP, 521 Fifth Ave., 31st Fl. (email host Jacqueline Newman [jnewman@berkbot.com] and Co-Chair Victoria Turchetti [vturchetti@condonlaw.com] to RSVP).
- Other Events:**
- The **NYWBA** is co-sponsoring an all-day CLE on **May 16** at 9:00 a.m. on "*Starting a Practice in New York*" at the Concierge Conference Center, 780 Third Ave. (see notice, p. 3). Go to www.nysba.org to register.
 - The **NYWBA Foundation** will continue its "*Breakfast Speaker Series*" on **May 20** at 8:00 A.M. with distinguished speaker **Hon. Nancy Gertner**, U.S. District Judge (ret'd), District of Mass., at The Cornell Club, 6 E. 44th St. (see notice, p. 1). The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charity, and donations for this event are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Bridget Adams-Davis | Michael T. Mueller |
| Lauren S. Albert | Damian M. Nash |
| Mary E. Conroy | Sofiya Nozhnik |
| Robyn C. Coote | Helen Ogbara |
| Alexis Diaz | Margaret O'Hora |
| Rachelle A. Fernandes | Pearl D. Pari |
| Lauren N. Giudice | Stephanie L. Pavlick |
| Lauren Goldberg | Susan A. Romano |
| Stephanie Hamberger | Basha Frost Rubin |
| Catherine A. Helwig | Samantha Segal |
| Rebecca R. Hirschklau | Terri J. Seligman |
| Katherine L. Moore | Jean E. Troast |

NOTES ON MEMBERS

Congratulations to long-time member **Hon. Sheila Abdus-Salaam** on her nomination to serve as an Associate Judge on the New York Court of Appeals. Judge Abdus-Salaam has served as a judge for more than twenty years, most recently as an Associate Justice of the Appellate Division, First Department since 2009. (Confirmation hearings on her appointment were pending as the Newsletter went to press.)

Has something noteworthy happened to you or another member? Send your news to Newsletter@nywba.org.

NYWBA is proud to co-sponsor a New York State Bar Association Program "*Starting a Practice in New York*"

Are you considering opening your own firm? Whether you are an experienced attorney considering leaving your current employment or just starting out, this program is ideal if you are thinking of opening your own firm. Distinguished faculty will provide a blueprint for starting a law practice and offer practical tips and advice to maximize your chances of success.

- Date:** Thursday, May 16, 2013
Time: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. – CLE Program
Place: Concierge Conference Center
 780 Third Avenue, NYC (btw 48th and 49th)
Cost: \$150 - NYSBA/NYWBA members*
 \$250 - non-members **
(NYWBA members pay the NYSBA discount price; this is not an NYWBA program, so our "free CLE" benefit does not apply.)
CLE: 8.0 MCLE Credits (2.0 Ethics)***
RSVP: Go to www.nysba.org/StartingaPractice2013 for details and to register

**Membership:* This program is presented by NYSBA and co-sponsored by NYWBA. To get the member discount price, you must be a member of NYSBA, NYWBA or another sponsoring organization. If you are not a current member, go to www.nywba.org/membership to join or renew.
 ***Financial Hardship Scholarships:* Full and partial scholarships are available based on financial need. For info, contact NYSBA (nysba.org).
 ****CLE:* NYSBA is an accredited CLE provider; credit is for established attorneys and as transitional credit hours for newly admitted attorneys.

NYWBA Remembers Past President Mary Riepma Cowell Ross (1910-2013)

by Elizabeth A. Bryson



Many of our members will remember our **Past President Mary Riepma Cowell Ross**. As briefly mentioned in our last Newsletter, Mary passed away in February at the age of 102. I got to know Mary in the late 1990's and early 2000's, when I became an Officer and later when I served as NYWBA President. One connection was that my final year as President (2005) happened precisely 50

years after Mary's first term as President (1955-57). As it happens, the Annual Dinner in 2005 was both our celebration of the Association's 70th Anniversary and the last NYWBA event that Mary attended.

On March 21, 2013, I was privileged to represent the NYWBA at a memorial service in Mary's honor at St. James Episcopal Church in Manhattan. The service was lovely – efficient and elegant, and so like Mary. Two of her nieces, Andrea Gray Stillman and Adrienne Gray Hines, spoke eloquently about their humorous, fiercely independent, accomplished, and indomitable “Aunt Mary,” and I definitely knew the same person – a true original.

Our newer members may not know Mary's background and accomplishments. The following excerpts from the obituary by Mary's nephew (with my notations in brackets) sums up her distinguished career and many interests:

“The cause [of Mrs. Ross' death] was old age. [B]y her own account, she was ‘a tough old bird’ from a long-lived family. Mrs. Ross was one of the early generation of women lawyers who gained a toehold in major law firms because of staff shortages in World War II. She was also active in arts and educational philanthropy.

Born in Oklahoma City in 1910, Mrs. Ross attended the University of Nebraska/Lincoln ..., graduated from Vassar in 1932, and received her law degree [in 1938] from Memphis State University [now the University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law]. In the early 1940's, she worked for the United States government in Washington, D.C., chiefly in the Office of Alien Property [of the U.S. Justice Department]. She moved to New York in 1946 to work for [Royal, Koegel & Rogers,] a firm that later became known as Rogers & Wells [now Clifford Chance LLP], where she became an expert in wills, trusts and estates. “I never would have been hired by them if it hadn't been for the war. Of course, the head of my department told me, right at the start, they'd never make me a partner because I was a woman,” she said in 1993.

Mrs. Ross served on various committees of the American Bar Association, the Association of the Bar of the City of New York, and the New York Women's Bar Association, including on the NYWBA Committee for Equal Opportunities for Women in the 1940's. She served as [NYWBA] President in 1955-57.

She left Rogers & Wells in 1961 to begin [a solo] private practice, and she also became active in philanthropic work, serving on the Board of the Merce Cunningham Dance Foundation, the Central Park Community Fund, the University of Nebraska Foundation, and other organizations. In the 1970's and 1980's, she competed in amateur ballroom dance events, and in 1989 she [donated \$3.5 million to establish] the Mary Riepma Ross Film Theatre at the University of Nebraska.”

To expand on her importance to the New York Women's Bar: Mary was a member continuously for nearly 65 years. She served on the By-Laws Judiciary, Legislation, and Committees. As a member of the Equal Employment Opportunities for Women Committee, she advocated for the advancement of women in the profession. She joined the Board in 1948, and prior to her Presidency she served as a Director, as Corresponding Secretary, and as a Vice President (2 terms). Mary was our 14th President and was elected to two successive terms (1955-56 & 1956-57). Subsequent to her Presidency, she served on the NYWBA Advisory Council for more than 50 years. She was also active with other professional organizations that support women's equality, including the National Association of Women Lawyers.

Mary was a role model – smart, funny, persuasive, tough, and inspirational. At the memorial service, I had the privilege of speaking with more than a half-dozen women who helped care for Mary in her late nineties and as a centenarian. Each one of them commented on her wit, generosity and magnanimous spirit.

For me, I will always remember Mary's hearty laugh – a full-throated expression of unbridled joy. She shall be missed.

We will include a tribute page to Mary in our **Annual Dinner Journal** this year. Please send your recollections, photos or other contributions to me at History@nywba.org by **May 25, 2013.**)

Elizabeth A. Bryson is a Past President of the NYWBA and a past Officer of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York. She currently serves as a NYWBA Director, as Co-Chair of the NYWBA By-Laws, Membership, Archives/History and Website Committees, and as Co-Chair of the WBASNY By-Laws and Amicus Curiae Committees. She is a litigator and appellate attorney in Manhattan.

Installed as President Of Women's Bar Group



Mrs. Mary R. Cowell

The New York Women's Bar Association installed Mrs. Mary R. Cowell as president yesterday at a luncheon in the Sheraton-Astor Hotel. Miss Norah K. Donovan, the retiring president, officiated. Mrs. Cowell has been associated with the firm of Dwight, Royall, Harris, Koegel & Caskey for the last eight years.

The New York Times

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Socially Responsible Investing

by Michael B. Salmon

As the global climate change discussions heat up in Washington, many investors are paying attention to the impact of their investments on the environment and the well being of people around the world. As this trend has increased, so has the demand for investment choices that demonstrate not only financial soundness, but also a concern for quality of life. This investment philosophy, known as socially responsible investing (SRI), has a special appeal to many individuals concerned with the future of our planet.

What constitutes socially responsible investing?

Investors who adopt an SRI strategy believe their decisions should be governed not only by economics, but also by social issues. This often means refraining from investing in companies or industries that produce products or offer services the investor disapproves of, regardless of the company's or industry's potential for profit or value. Investors who maintain an SRI strategy may choose to avoid investing in companies related to alcohol, tobacco, gambling and weapons. It can also mean investing in companies that promote workplace diversity, actively participate in community volunteer programs or work to improve the environment.

Benefits, drawbacks and strategies of SRI

As with all types of investing, there are tradeoffs that come with socially responsible investing. Those who practice SRI can feel good that their investment choices reflect their values. However, socially responsible investors must balance this benefit with more limited choices with regard to portfolio diversification.

Some strategies that those interested in SRI may employ include divesting from companies that don't align with their personal morals or beliefs, and participating in shareholder activism or engagement. They may also include:

- Investing in SRI mutual funds. These funds include companies that many socially responsible investors support. They use SRI strategies as part of their fund objectives and portfolio choices.
- Micro-financing. Money invested in micro-financing service companies is used to support small businesses that otherwise would not be eligible for traditional financing.
- Community-investing. Community-investing directs capital from investors and lenders to communities that are underserved by traditional financial services institutions. It makes it possible for local organizations to provide financial services to low-income individuals and to supply capital for small businesses and vital community services, such as affordable housing, child care, and healthcare.

Building a socially responsible portfolio

To invest according to your ethical standards, research your investment decisions carefully. SocialFunds.com is a website of SRI World Group, Inc.; a news, research, and consulting firm that advises clients regarding sustainability investment issues

and corporate responsibility practices. The Forum for Sustainable and Responsible Investment (socialinvest.org) is a nonprofit organization that promotes socially and environmentally responsible investing. Their website also provides extensive information that may help you get started.

If you think a SRI strategy fits your financial objectives, consider working with a financial advisor to get professional advice about possible investment opportunities. A financial advisor can help you find appropriate SRIs and brainstorm options for future investments that satisfy both your financial goals and your desire to invest ethically and responsibly. I am here to help the members of NYWBA.



Michael Salmon is a Senior Financial Advisor with Ameriprise Financial, specializing in Financial Planning, Investment Portfolio Management, Retirement Planning Strategies, Estate Planning Strategies, and Saving for Education. He is an active public speaker and financial columnist. He is licensed and registered to conduct business in NY. Based on licenses and registrations he holds, he may also conduct business in MI, MA, OR, FL, PA, NM, NC, CA, RI, CT, KY, NJ, and LA. You can reach him at 646-964-9470 or michael.b.salmon@ampf.com.

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Elder Law and Disabilities Committee Program

"End of Life Care: Wishes, Wants and Needs - The Hospice and Palliative Care Experience"

featuring distinguished speaker

Victoria Assumma

Hospice Care in Westchester and Putnam, Director of Social Work Services; Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW-R); Member, Academy of Certified Social Workers (ACSW)

Date: Thursday, May 9, 2013

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Place: Newman Ferrara LLP
1250 Broadway, 27th Fl., NYC
(between 31st and 32nd Street)

Cost: No Charge for Women's Bar Members*

RSVP: ElderLawRSVP@nywba.org

Due to space limitations, advance registration is required.

The Committee thanks **Newman Ferrara LLP** for hosting.

***Membership:** If you are not a current member, go to www.nywba.org/membership to join or renew.

**THE NEW YORK WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION
Criminal Law and Litigation Committees present**

CLE Program

"Persuasive Writing for Lawyers"

featuring **Honorable Gerald Lebovits**

Judge of the New York Civil Court, Bronx County

Date: Monday, May 13, 2013

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

Place: Newman Ferrara LLP

1250 Broadway, 27th Floor, NYC
(enter on 32nd Street)

CLE: 2.0 CLE Credits* (accreditation pending)

Cost: Complimentary for Women's Bar members**

\$50 for Non-Members and Guests
Light refreshments will be served.

RSVP: Go to www.nywba.org/LegalWritingCLE for details and to register.

Due to space limitations, advance registration is required.

Presenters thank the **NYWBA Board** and the **Hon. Florence Perlow Shientag Bequest** for helping to underwrite the costs of this program.

NYWBA also thanks **Newman Ferrara LLP** for hosting.

***CLE:** New York Women's Bar Association is a chapter of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York, an accredited CLE provider. Approval of CLE credit is pending in accordance with the requirements of the NYS CLE Board for established attorneys and as transitional credit hours for newly admitted attorneys.

****Membership:** Go to www.nywba.org/membership if you are not a current member to join or renew. Members of other WBASNY Chapters should indicate their member Chapter in their RSVP.

*****Financial Hardship Scholarships:** Full and partial scholarships are available based on financial need. For info, contact CLE Chair Amy B. Goldsmith (agoldsmith@tarterkrinsky.com). All requests are confidential.

**NYWBA Solo & Small Firm Practice Committee
NETWORKING DINNER**

Join the **Solo and Small Firm Practice Committee**, and Co-Chairs **Deborah G. Rosenthal** and **Jocelyn L. Jacobson**, as the Committee celebrates the activities and accomplishments of the 2012-13 term and begins planning for 2013-14. Members are invited to convene for dinner and networking at Patsy's Pizzeria in midtown. NYWBA members and prospective members are welcome.

Date: Tuesday, May 21, 2013, 6:30 p.m.

Place: Patsy's Pizzeria, 801 Second Avenue, NYC
(Between 42nd and 43rd Streets)

RSVP: SNLChairs@nywba.org

If you cannot attend but are interested in the Committee, send your contact info and ideas for future events to SNLChairs@nywba.org.

WOMEN'S BAR ASSN. OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

Annual Convention

The WBASNY Convention a great opportunity to meet and mingle with Women's Bar members from across the state, to attend first class CLEs, and to celebrate as WBASNY presents its prestigious awards and installs its officers for the coming year.

The 2013 Convention will be held in Philadelphia, just a couple of hours from NYC by train or car. It's a great city, and the schedule includes tours and excursions. The full calendar and all details are available at the WBASNY website (www.wbasny.org).

Two long-time NYWBA members will be honored at this year's Convention:

Amy Saltzman has been elected WBASNY Recording Secretary for 2013-14 and will be installed at the Dinner on Saturday, June 8, 2013. Amy is a current NYWBA Officer, a past Director, Co-Chairs the NYWBA Legislation Committee, and has chaired many other NYWBA and WBASNY committees. She is also a past member of the Rockland and Westchester Women's Bar Associations, and an advocate for the rights of domestic violence victims. She has a solo matrimonial and family law practice.

Elizabeth A. Bryson will be honored with WBASNY's **Marilyn Menge Award** for extraordinary service at the Dinner on Friday, June 7, 2013. Beth is a NYWBA Past President, a past WBASNY Officer, and a current NYWBA Director, and she has chaired many NYWBA and WBASNY committees. She has mentored many NYWBA Presidents and works tirelessly for the Association and equal rights, most recently by helping to edit an *amicus* brief on same sex marriage before the U.S. Supreme Court. She is a litigator and appellate attorney.

Won't you sign up for the Convention and help us celebrate with Amy, Beth and our Women's Bar colleagues?

When: June 7-9, 2013 – Full Convention

June 6, 2013 – Pre-Convention Reception & Dinner

Where: Radisson Plaza-Warwick Hotel, Philadelphia, PA

Cost: Price varies based on the Convention package & excursions you choose. (All meals and CLEs are included with the full weekend package.)

Journal: Place tributes to our honorees in the Convention Journal. See Convention brochure for details.

RSVP: For brochure and to register, go to www.wbasny.org and click on "Register Online" in the lower right corner of the screen. Space is limited, so register ASAP.

Info: For further info, email LChiaverini@wbasny.org.

Convention Sponsorship – Sponsors are always welcome. Details are available at the WBASNY website (www.wbasny.org).

Legislation Committee Update – The “New York Dream Act”

by *Elba Rose Galvan*

NYWBA's Legislation Committee, co-chaired by **Amy Saltzman**, **Dawn M. Cardí** and **Elba Rose Galvan**, has been very active this year. Under the applicable By-Laws, all legislative issues are addressed at the statewide level through the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York. Each Women's Bar Chapter, including NYWBA (a founding Chapter of WBASNY) has the opportunity to review proposed legislation and be represented on both the WBASNY substantive committees and on the WBASNY Legislation Committee.

Recently, the NYWBA Legislation Committee raised the *New York Dream Act* (NYDA) for consideration by the WBASNY Legislation Committee. The NYDA provides access to tuition assistance and other state grants and scholarships for undocumented students in New York who meet certain criteria. On March 23, 2013, the WBASNY Legislation Committee endorsed the legislation, and the full WBASNY Board voted to support it. WBASNY's position statement concerning the Act appears in the adjacent inset. The legislation committee will continue to monitor its progress.

We will also track the development of newly introduced federal Comprehensive Immigration Reform legislation, S 744. The “DREAM Act” portion of the federal bill (Sec. 2103) would grant eligible undocumented immigrants who entered the United States as children, a path to citizenship.

Elba Rose Galvan is a member of the NYWBA Legislation Committee and is Law Clerk to Hon. Analisa Torres. (Judge Torres and the Court are not involved in any WBASNY legislation proposals.)

WBASNY Position on the NY Dream Act

The Women's Bar Association of the State of New York (WBASNY) supports the New York Dream Act (A.2597/S.2378), which provides opportunities for undocumented students in New York who meet certain criteria to be eligible for financial aid to institutions of higher education.

WBASNY recognizes the moral imperative for this legislation as well as its long-term fiscal benefits. New York invests time and money in the K-12 education of all of its residents. But we curtail that investment if we deprive undocumented students of the financial means to successfully complete a higher education. Individuals with college degrees have a greater earning capacity than those less educated. Moreover, increasing the affordability of college decreases drop-out rates. New York's tax revenues will increase over time as more students obtain higher degrees. These long-term benefits inure to all New Yorkers. Through President Obama's Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals policy, many undocumented students have and will become eligible to work (albeit with their immigration status unchanged).

While WBASNY endorses these bills, WBASNY is concerned that more needs to be done to support this population. For example, although the legislation references "parents or guardians" of the applicant, those terms are not clearly defined, and it does not address young adults in a foster care environment. WBASNY also recommends the protection of the identity of these students so they are not discouraged from applying for aid.

WBASNY urges swift passage of the bills by the Assembly and Senate and further encourages Governor Cuomo to sign the legislation when passed.

Excellent Program on "Trying Child or Spousal Support Cases in Family or Supreme Courts"

by *Lauren Michael Friend*

On April 3, 2013, the NYWBA Matrimonial and Family Law Committee presented an informative meeting featuring New York Family Court Support Magistrate **Matthew J. Troy, III** and New York Supreme Court Special Referee **Steven E. Liebman**. **Hon. Lori S. Sattler**, Justice of the New York County Supreme Court, moderated the event, which covered family law hot topics such as income imputation, child support evidentiary burdens, and the practical application of “the cap.”

Magistrate Troy and Referee Liebman identified the differences between support cases in Family and Supreme Courts and gave us an inside look as to how they move cases on their respective dockets. Both stressed the overarching goal of settlement, and they cautioned practitioners to be aware of the client's actual financial circumstances before filing modification petitions.

Magistrate Troy shared his experiences in handling support cases involving the very wealthy and the not-so wealthy, as he opined on such matters as private school, child care, and application of the cap. In view of the news that the Matrimonial and Family Law Committee is hosting a joint program with the NYC Bar Matrimonial Committee concerning children with special needs in May, Magistrate Troy outlined the issues regarding add-ons in con-

sidering the support obligations of parents with children found to have special needs.

Referee Liebman concurred with Magistrate Troy in discussing the importance of the add-on obligations for children with special needs. He was also quite adamant in stressing the importance of candor in tax returns and other verified documents. Specifically, Referee Liebman cautioned how attorney oversights, even when unintentional, can have dire financial and legal consequences for the client and the family.

Both speakers highlighted how the changing market and depressed economy have had far-reaching effects on support calculations, and how they have made the entire support practice extremely challenging for both jurists and counsel.

The program was well-attended and was extremely helpful for family and matrimonial law practitioners, as demonstrated by the many questions that were raised for the speakers.

Lauren Michael Friend is the principal in the Law Office of Lauren M. Friend, where she practices family and matrimonial law. She is also a Co-Chair of NYWBA Students and New Lawyers Committee and a member of the Matrimonial & Family Law Committee.

**NYWBA Matrimonial & Family Law
Committee and the New York County Bar
Association Matrimonial Committee**

present

***"Extraordinary Issues for Extraordinary
Kids: A Primer on the Issues Involved
When Confronted with Special Needs
Children in Divorce"***

This program will address the unique financial and parenting issues that arise with special needs children, particularly in the context of divorce. A panel of leading experts will discuss the special needs evaluation; quantifying, evaluating and establishing special needs; relevant statutes & rules; government benefits and outside funding sources, and steps to preserve such benefits; health and life insurance; guardianship issues; and supplemental needs trusts. The panel also will discuss the impact of divorce proceedings in this context and explore parenting, custody, and time-sharing issues for children with special needs and talents.

Speakers:

WILLIAM C. HERMAN, Rosenthal, Herman and Notaro, P.C.

MICHELLE SMITH, CFP, CDFA,
Smith Financial Strategies Group

JUDITH L. POLLER, Pryor Cashman LLP

HON. MATHEW F. COOPER

Justice of the New York State Supreme Court

VIRGINIA A. LOPRETO, Attorney at Law & Co-Chair
of the NYWBA Matrimonial & Family Law Committee

ERNST OLIVER VANBERGEIJK, Ph.D., Associate
Dean & Executive Director, New York Institute of Technology

Date: **Tuesday, May 7, 2013** (*NOTE that this event is NOT
on the first Monday of the month.*)

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

Place: **New York City Bar Association**
42 West 44th St. (btw 5th & 6th Aves), NYC

Cost: **Free** & open to all (not just Committee members)

RSVP: Email Kate Sullivan at sullivan@amslp.com with
name, title, affiliation and contact info

Info: Email MFRsvp@nywba.org

Mark Your Calendars!

**CLE Program presented by NYWBA
Criminal Law and Ethics Committees**

***"Avoiding Ethical Pitfalls in a
Criminal Law Practice"***

featuring distinguished speakers

Jorge Dopico, Esq.

*Chief Counsel to the Departmental Disciplinary Committee
of the Appellate Division, First Department*

Michael S. Ross, Esq.

*Partner, LaRossa & Ross, specializing in attorney ethics and
criminal law; former Assistant United States Attorney; Adjunct
Professor at Benjamin N. Cardozo Law School, teaching courses
in Appellate Advocacy, Criminal and Civil Litigation, Judicial
Administration, and Professional Responsibility*

Planning is underway for this program, and additional speakers are anticipated. Discover which ethical rules are most often violated by criminal law practitioners, and learn best practices to avoid ethical problems when handling criminal cases.

Date: **Tuesday, June 18, 2013**

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

Place: **Frankfurt Kurnit Klein & Selz PC**
488 Madison Ave (btw 51st & 52nd Sts.), NYC

CLE: **2.0 Ethics Credits*** (Accreditation pending)

Cost: **Free for NYWBA/WBASNY Members****
\$50 for non-members***

RSVP: Details and registration info will be available
soon on the website calendar (www.nywba.org)

Due to space limitations, advance registration is required.

Presenters thank the **Hon. Florence Perlow Shientag Bequest**,
the **NYWBA Board**, and **Frankfurt Kurnit Klein & Selz PC**
for helping to underwrite the costs of this program.

***CLE:** New York Women's Bar Association is a founding chapter of the Women's Bar Assn of the State of New York, an accredited CLE provider. Approval of CLE credit is pending in accordance with the requirements of the NYS CLE Board for the above-listed credit hours for established attorneys and as transitional credit hours for newly admitted attorneys.

****Membership:** Members attend CLE programs for free. If you are not a member, go to www.nywba.org/Membership to join or renew using our secure online membership form.

*****FINANCIAL HARDSHIP SCHOLARSHIPS:** Full and partial scholarships based on financial need are available. For info on the guidelines and to apply, contact CLE Chair Amy. B. Goldsmith at CLE@nywba.org or 212-216-1135. All requests are confidential.

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**It's time to RENEW your
membership for 2013-2014!**

The NYWBA fiscal year is June 1 to May 31, which means that the 2013-2014 membership year starts on June 1st. Go to www.nywba.org and click on "Membership" to access our secure online membership form or contact our Executive Director (ED@nywba.org or 212-490-8202) to have a renewal form sent to you.

Save the Date!

FREE CLE PROGRAM ON

Sex Trafficking

featuring *Kate Mogulescu, Esq.*,
Project Director of the Legal Aid Society's
Trafficking Victims Legal Defense & Advocacy Project

Thursday, June 20, 2013

Mark your calendars now, so you don't miss out.
Details and RSVP info will be posted
on the NYWBA website.

Presenting Organization:
The Legal Aid Society

Co-Sponsoring Organizations:
NYWBA Criminal Law Committee and
Domestic Violence Committee, and
the Brooklyn Women's Bar Association

NYWBA Newsletters Are Available Online

Just go to www.nywba.org/members. The current issue of the NYWBA Newsletter is available online, along with past editions (back to 2004).

As part of our "green" initiative, half of the NYWBA Newsletters now appear only in an electronic format. The "eNews" editions have the same layout and all of the great articles, photos and announcements as the print editions. You can easily read the eNewsletter on your computer or print it out.

Note: You must have the current user name and password to access the "Members Only" areas of the NYWBA website where the electronic editions of the Newsletter can be found. If you are not yet a member for 2012-2013, please join or renew using our secure online membership form at www.nywba.org/membership. If you are a current member but did not receive the recent email about the new password for the Members Only pages, contact Executive Director Karen Lu (ED@nywba.org) to get the new password or to inquire about your membership status.

NYWBA wishes to acknowledge the generous gift from

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Her financial bequest has helped to
underwrite the cost of this newsletter and
several CLE programs mentioned herein.

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***"Women's Rights in the Islamic World
After the Arab Spring"***

There has been a great deal of hope, and some real progress, in the enhancement of gender equality and women's rights in many Muslim majority nations following the surge of freedom and democracy of the Arab Spring. This program will examine those advancements in a historic context and explore the likelihood of their becoming permanent or being negated or even reversed.

Moderator - Robert E. Michael, Esq.

Chair, Subcommittee on Islamic Law of the City Bar Council on International Affairs; Chair, Islamic Law Committee of the American Branch of the International Law Association; Adjunct Professor, Pace University Law School; Managing Member, Robert E. Michael & Associates PLLC

Speakers

Carole Basri, Esq.

Adjunct Professor, Fordham University Law School; Vice President of the Women's Alliance for a Democratic Iraq; President, Corporate Lawyering Group LLC; Senior Vice President, Balint, Brown & Basri LLC.

Zeina al-Jallad, Esq.

Visiting Scholar and Research Fellow, Columbia Law School Center for Gender and Sexuality Law; admitted to practice law in Palestine.

Karima E. Bennoune, Esq.

Professor of Law, University of California Davis School of Law, and author of *Your Fatwa Does Not Apply Here - Untold Stories from the Fight Against Muslim Fundamentalism* (forthcoming August 2013)

Sali A. Rakower, Esq.

Senior Fellow of the West Point Center for the Rule of Law and its inaugural Director; formerly associated with White & Case, active in Middle East legal affairs.

Nora Altaweel, Esq.

Saudi Arabian lawyer and May 2013 candidate for an LL.M. Degree in International Law at Pace University Law School.

Date: Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Time: 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Place: New York City Bar Association, 42 West 44th Street, Meeting Hall (2nd Floor), NYC (between Fifth & Sixth Avenues)

Cost: Program is FREE and open to the public.

RSVP: Go to www.nycbar.org to register (click on "Events," "Event Calendar," & "May 8.")

Confirmed Co-Sponsors - New York City Bar: Council on International Affairs, Sex and the Law Committee, and Committee on Women in the Profession; New York Women's Bar Association; International Women's Rights Committee of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York; Muslim Bar Association of New York; and PILnet: The Global Network for Public Interest Law.

**NYWBA Matrimonial & Family Law Committee Program
"The Matrimonial and Family Law Case on Appeal"**

At this Matrimonial & Family Law Committee event, **Hon. Rosalyn H. Richter** and **Hon. John W. Sweeny**, both Justices of the New York Supreme Court, Appellate Division, First Department, will discuss key appellate issues, including seeking interim stays, preserving your record for appeal, and presenting the case for or against the lower court decision in the brief on in oral argument. *(No discussion of pending cases.)*

When: Wednesday, June 5, 2013, 6:00 p.m.

Where: Blank Rome, LLP, The Chrysler Building, 405 Lexington Avenue (at 42nd Street), NYC

Cost: Free for Women's Bar members*
(You must be a member to attend!)

RSVP: MFrsvp@nywba.org

NOTE: Due to space limitations, advance registration is required. ONLY 2013-2014 members* will be admitted (first come, first serve). No one will be admitted after 6:30 p.m. (RSVP's will not be confirmed.)

A new fiscal year starts on June 1, 2013. Be sure to renew **before this event at www.nywba.org/membership**. To inquire about your membership status, email Executive Director Karen Lu (ED@nywba.org).

The Committee thanks **Blank Rome LLP** for hosting.

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Successful Criminal Law Committee Program on Persuading Juries by *Modeline Fenelon and Nicola Duffy*

On March 21, 2013, many attorneys, including assistant district attorneys and defense attorneys, attended the NYWBA Criminal Law Committee's event "**How to Select and Speak to a Jury - Jury Selection, Opening Statements & Summations**" at the Law Offices of Newman Ferrara LLP.

The outstanding speakers were Assistant District Attorney **Cary Fisher**, Senior Trial Attorney of Kings County District Attorney's Office; Assistant District Attorney **Janet Gleeson**, First Deputy Bureau Chief, Major Narcotics Investigations Bureau of Kings County District Attorney's Office; and **Michael C. Farkas, Esq.**, Partner at Sclar Adler LLP, whose practice focuses on white collar and serious violent felony criminal defense and military law.

All of the speakers have extensive experience in criminal law and jury trials. It was an exciting event, where these distinguished practitioners shared many of their own experiences, including lessons they have learned as criminal law practitioners, successful techniques they have used, and how they have dealt with their own weaknesses.

The speakers were insightful and entertaining. Everyone who was present came away with useful advice for conducting a jury trial. Some of the takeaways were: Both prosecuting and defense attorneys should always think of a trial as a "One-Man Show," and prosecuting attorneys and defense attorneys should always have a theme and tell a story during opening statement. All the speakers agreed that from "jury selection to summation," the prosecution and defense should "always be closing."

The evening was very lively and a huge success. The Committee thanks Newman Ferrara for hosting.

Modeline Fenelon is an associate at Clover Barrett & Associates, P.C., practicing in bankruptcy, trusts and estates, real property, family law and criminal law. She is a member of the NYWBA Criminal Law Committee. Nicola Duffy was educated in Ireland and is an associate at Brody, Benard & Branch LLP. She was recently named a Co-Chair of the Committee.



NEW YORK WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION

invites you to attend and support our

2013 Awards and Installation Dinner

The President's Special Award will be presented to the
HON. A. GAIL PRUDENTI
Chief Administrative Judge of New York State and former
Presiding Justice of the Appellate Division, Second Dept.

The Doris S. Hoffman Award will be presented to the
HON. SHEILA ABDUS-SALAAM
Associate Justice, Appellate Division, First Department
& Nominee to the New York Court of Appeals

NYWBA will proudly recognize the **WOMEN JUSTICES
OF THE APPELLATE DIVISION,
FIRST DEPARTMENT**

We will also install the incoming Officers & Directors, including
HON. JACQUELINE W. SILBERMANN
for a second term as President of our Association

When: Tuesday, June 14, 2011

*6:00 p.m. – Cocktail Reception & Silent Auction
to benefit NYWBA Foundation & Hon. Betty
Weinberg Ellerin Fellowship*

7:30 p.m. – Dinner and Program

Where: Marriott Marquis, Times Square, NYC

Cost: \$250 – Individual seats (*open seating*)

\$225 – Judiciary seating (*rate for sitting jurists; open seating*)

\$3,600 – Premium Reserved Tables of Ten

(priority seating)

Journal: Place your ads in our commemorative Dinner Journal, as well as tributes to our honorees, officers & directors, or others. See RSVP for sizes and prices.

RSVP: To reserve seats and tables for the Annual Dinner, submit tributes & ads in the Journal, and/or learn more about sponsorship, go to our website (www.nywba.org/annual_dinner).

Space is limited, so register as soon as possible.

Info: Email AnnualDinner@nywba.org

Event Sponsorship – We welcome potential sponsors at the Platinum, Gold, Silver and Friend levels. Sponsorship provides many opportunities and benefits. All sponsors are recognized at the event, on our website and in the Newsletter. Depending on the sponsorship level, they may also receive tickets to the Dinner, free ads in the Newsletter, and other rewards.

RSVP Today – We hope to see you!



NYWBA Membership Information

We thank our current members for their continued support and involvement, and we look forward to welcoming new and renewing members. Take advantage of our many member benefits - join committees, network, participate in mentoring circles, attend our signature events, and get CLE credits at our innovative and compelling programs at a significantly reduced cost. It's easy to join or renew - go to www.nywba.org/Membership to access our secure online membership form.

Current members should send updated address and contact information to ED@nywba.org. This will help us keep you informed about our programs, events and other benefits of membership.

Newsletter and Advertising Information

Submissions must be sent to the Newsletter Committee by the **10th** of the month for publication in the following month's Newsletter. Please submit articles, announcements, upcoming event programming, photos, committee news, member news and ads to newsletter@nywba.org. Submissions should be proofed and cite-checked, and NYWBA retains the usual editorial discretion to omit or edit all contributions. Please send an email to newsletter@nywba.org if you have questions or are interested in joining the Newsletter Committee.

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