



NEW YORK WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION
and
**WESTCHESTER WOMEN'S
BAR ASSOCIATION**

Present

***Defending a Mortgage Foreclosure in New York ~
Tactics for Assisting Clients against Predatory
Lenders and in Bankruptcy Proceedings***

March 31, 2004
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Newman Real Estate Institute, Baruch College
137 E. 22nd Street
(between Lexington and 3rd Avenue)
New York City

Speakers:

Brigitte Amiri, Esq.
South Brooklyn Legal Services
and

Richard Klass, Esq.
Law Offices of Richard A. Klass

CLE - 3 Hours of Professional Practice Credits*
Registration Fee -- \$20 Members
\$35 Non-Members

RSVP to info@nywba.com, 212-360-7055 or
to Jody Fay at 914-244-3738

* CLE: Approval of CLE credit is pending in accordance with the requirements of the NYS CLE Board, including for transitional credit for established and newly admitted attorneys. NYWBA and WWBA are chapters of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York, which is an accredited provider of CLE credits.

Financial hardship: Full and partial scholarships for this program based on financial need are available. For information on the guidelines and procedures for applying, please contact the NYWBA at 212-360-7055 or info@nywba.org. All requests are confidential.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Balance and Accomplishment

March 2004



Photo: Daryl-Ann Saunders

One of the things that always amazes me about our members is how incredibly busy they are - in firms, companies, on the bench and at home - and yet they somehow find time to contribute their time and energy to this Association, our Foundation, WBASNY, and other civic and charitable pursuits.

This was never clearer than in our recent membership drive. I am thrilled to announce that our membership is up by over 33% from last year, and nearly 50% from two years ago. As a result, we will now have 10 delegates to the WBASNY Board of Directors, up from 6. This increase can be attributed to many factors, but it is mostly a tribute to the terrific work of members, the Board, and committee chairs. Each of these people has a full-time job, and many have significant responsibilities at home. Yet they give of themselves to ensure that our Association is strong and vital.

I need to single out three individuals - Teresa Schiller, Elise Yablonski and Lisa Sokoloff. Teresa personally recruited more than 75 new members this year, an incredible achievement. As important, her new members are now actively serving on numerous NYWBA and WBASNY Committees. Elise Yablonski is our leader in bringing past members back to the Association to renew their memberships. Lisa Sokoloff served as Co-Chair of our Membership Committee, and she is responsible for very successful events at law firms and courts, where we had the opportunity to discuss the Association and the important work that we and our Foundation do to improve the fair and equal administration of justice. It is through the efforts of these women and many others that we can proudly proclaim that we are once again the largest chapter of WBASNY!

Of course, the drive for membership is never closed. Membership is open year-round. Remember - new members who join for the first time after January 1st pay half-price membership dues. If you know people who would be great members, please direct them to our website (www.nywba.org), where they can download a membership application. Alternatively, call me or Executive Director Marta Toro, and one of us will send along an application.

Speaking of the web site, have you visited it lately? The site has a whole new "look and feel" that is

Continued on page 2

Report of the 2003-04 Committee on Nominations

The Committee on Nominations met on February 4, 2004 and proposes the following slate of candidates to serve during the 2004-05 year and for other terms as stated. The proposed slate will be voted upon by members in good standing at the Annual Membership Meeting on April 28, 2004 at the offices of New York Life Insurance Company, 51 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10010.

Officers

President:	Elizabeth A. Bryson
Vice Presidents:	Christina Kallas Lisa Sokoloff Teresa Schiller
Treasurer:	Janet I. Cord
Recording Secretary:	Lisa A. Bauer
Corresponding Secretary:	Jo Ann Douglas

Directors

<u>Class of 2002-05</u> Hon. Laura E. Drager*	<u>Class of 2004-07</u> Susan L. Bender Catherine M. Foti
<u>Class of 2003-06</u> Robin Eichen* Kelly O'Neill Levy* Milagros Matos*	Myra L. Freed Loretta Ippolito Amy Saltzman Wendy Schwartz Elise Yablonski

(*Candidates to fill director vacancies for indicated unexpired terms.)

NYWBA Delegates to WBASNY

Lisa Bauer	Christina Harman
Jo Ann Douglas	Christina Kallas
Hon. Betty Weinberg Ellerin	Phyllis Koffman
Martha E. Gifford	Marjorie Martin
Amy Halpert	Teresa Schiller

NOTICE TO MEMBERS ON VOTING

Article XVII, Section 10 of the NYWBA By-Laws provides that any fifty members eligible to vote at the Annual Meeting may, by a writing delivered to the Corresponding Secretary not less than forty days prior to the Annual Meeting, propose candidates for any or all of the offices and directorships to be voted on at such Annual Meeting. The Annual Meeting of the Association will be held on April 28, 2004. Accordingly, any petition for a candidate should be forwarded to Corresponding Secretary Jo Ann Douglas, 303 Park Avenue South, #1190, New York, NY 10010-3601, by no later than March 19, 2004.

President's Message continued from page 1

professional, inviting and informative. Forget when or where an event is going to be held? Just check the website. Need the phone number for a Committee Chair? It's on the website. As we announced last month, our "member pages" of the website are easy to access - just type "NYWBA" as your user name, and "justice" as the password. Remember - password information is for members only.

I am also thrilled that our Trusts & Estates Committee has been revitalized under its terrific new Co-Chairs, Leona Beane, Loretta Ippolito and Corinne Marcus. A report on this Committee is included in this month's Newsletter. New co-chairs have been named for the Business Law, Tax & Bankruptcy Committee as well. A list of committees can be found on the website. If you would like to join these or any other committees, please send a note to info@nywba.org or call 212-360-7055.

In the area of accomplishment under extraordinary circumstances, some of the people who make huge contributions to our Association are not attorneys. Marta Toro has done an incredible job in the eight months since she became Executive Director. She has revamped our procedures for handling CLE programs; upgraded our database and recommended further enhancements; and handled all of the paperwork, deposits, and reporting associated with our huge increase in membership. She has also been a warm and professional presence at our events and in communications with our members. She deserves all our kudos and respect.

I would be remiss if I did not also mention Denise Coleman, who is a member of our NYWBA Foundation Board of Directors. Denise is a marvel. After a long career as a professional fundraiser and manager of numerous charities, Denise was forced to retire due to the devastating impact of multiple sclerosis. She is in constant pain, and she often cannot see for long periods of time. Yet she has served on our Foundation Board with distinction. She comes to every Foundation Board meeting, and she is instrumental in working with Foundation President Kathy Posner to help set the Foundation's very ambitious and accomplished agenda. She is full of wonderful ideas and innovation, has written numerous articles for the newsletter, and has made a world of difference in the lives of the people who are the beneficiaries of the Foundation's charitable work. I am in awe of her courage and conviction.

I would also like to salute Board member Nancy Lazar, who has also struggled with health issues in the recent past and yet has contributed to our Association in a myriad of ways, all while performing hundreds of hours of pro bono work on behalf of women seeking asylum from the harsh regimes in their native countries. After many years, Nancy will be leaving the Board at the end of this term. I am thrilled that she will continue as a Foundation Board member and will contribute to other programs and events.

Our Association is blessed with so many women and men who contribute their talents to our Association. There is an old saying that if you want to get something done, give it to someone who is busy. There is simply no doubt that our members are busy and that they get things done!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Judith Aarons
 Randi Adelstein
 Fareeha Ahmad
 Panayiota Alexandropoulos
 Bonnie Barsamian
 Carrie Bonner
 Jana Lee Bozelko
 Lisa Brauner
 Diana G. Browne
 Kenneth David Burrows
 Beverly A. Chaney
 Marye Cherry
 Alan Christenfeld
 Alice Chung
 David B. Cohen
 Kate Collum
 Dayna Cooper
 Helene Coyne
 Viktoria A. Lof Dallendorfer
 Reshmi Das
 Lisa A. Del Puerto
 Catherine J. Douglass
 Tracey Dunn
 Jesse Eisenberg
 Monica L. Emerick
 Abigail W. Evans
 Lara Fetsco
 Erica Fine
 Kris Fitzmaurice
 Mary Gail Kearns
 Virginia Geiss
 Sophia Georgiou
 Caroline Giusio
 Andrea Goldberg
 Dawn Goldberg
 Debra Goldberg
 Barbara Goodstein
 Elysa Greenblatt
 Tanya A. Guazzo
 Hon. Bryanne A. Hamill
 Allison Harlow
 Katherine Hawkins
 Larissa Herczeg
 Charlotte Hitchcock
 Renee L. Jarusinsky
 Lindsay Kaplan
 Ani Kasparian
 Seth Kaufman
 Yelena Khelemskaya
 Jeeheon Kim
 Mina Kim
 Maryana Kodner

Catherine Koh
 Elana V. Konstant
 Elana Krieger
 Jill Kurtzman
 Zoe Langsten
 Katharine Larsen
 Laura Leibfreid
 Audrey Leigh
 Victoria Litz
 Elizabeth Lynch
 Renee Mallen
 Victoria Manthas
 Teresa R. Martin
 Elizabeth Mazzagetti
 Delenia McIver
 Laura McLaren
 Kelly M. Michael
 Sherry Mitchell
 Cecilia Moss
 Sara T. Murphy
 Mary Nation
 Kara Oboler
 Hon. Jeffrey K. Oing
 Joan Papke
 William F. Perry
 Madlyn Primoff
 Keila D. Ravelo
 Moira Reilly
 Jennifer Rie
 Lesley Friedman Rosenthal
 Amy N. Roth
 Dina Rovner
 Maureen Ryan
 Christine A. Ryan
 Margot Schonholtz
 Allison J. Schoenthal
 N. Nell Scott
 Anne C. Shelby
 Angelique Shingler
 Lisa Shroyer
 Hon. Martin Shulman
 Jennifer F. Sobol
 Rita Stephanz
 Tara Swidler
 Vera Sywenkyj
 Pia Thadhani
 Janine Tramontana
 Audrey E. Weinberger
 Ariane West-Pernica
 Oda Wypior
 Rachel Yoskowitz
 Lisa Zeiderman

NOTES ON MEMBERS

We are saddened to report that David Oing, son of **Judge Jeffrey Oing**, passed away on February 7, 2004. Our thoughts and prayers are with Judge Oing and his family. Donations may be made to the David K. Oing Memorial Scholarship Fund, St. Ignatius Loyola Elementary School, 48 East 84th Street, New York, New York 10028. Condolences may be sent to Mary Hom and Hon. Jeffrey Oing at their home address: 128 East 83rd Street, New York, NY 10028.

The Association notes with sadness the death of our long-standing member, the **Honorable Cecelia H. Goetz**, retired Bankruptcy Judge, SDNY. Judge Goetz was a cum laude graduate of NYU Law School, where she was the first woman Editor-in-Chief of the school's Quarterly Review. She served as a Special Assistant to the U.S. Attorney General during World War II, served on the staff of the Office of Chief Counsel for War Crimes and participated in the Nuremberg trials as a prosecutor. After many years in private practice, she was appointed to the U.S. Bankruptcy Court in 1978, where she served with distinction until her retirement in 1993. In addition to her service to NYWBA and as a Board member of WBASNY, Judge Goetz was a past President of the NYS Association of Women Judges, a past District Director of the National Association of Women Judges, and a member of NYCLA's Special Committee on Women's Rights. Our thoughts and prayers are with her sons and the entire Goetz family.

The Association is delighted to congratulate **Justice Betty Weinberg Ellerin** and her family on the birth of grandson Michael Will Vincent, who was born on February 5th. Justice Ellerin's daughter Bunny, son-in-law Geoff Vincent, and the baby are all doing fine.

Mark Your Calendars!**ETHEL DANZIG MEMORIAL LECTURE**

Sponsored by the New York Women's Bar Association, the Metropolitan Women's Bar Association, and the Women's Rights Committee of the New York County Lawyer's Association

"Women's Issues in Congress"

Hon. Carolyn Maloney
 Representative, United States Congress
 Monday, April 19, 2004 @ NYCLA

**NYWBA FOUNDATION
 BREAKFAST SPEAKER SERIES
 CHARITY EVENT**

featuring
 GAIL COLLINS
 Editorial Page Editor, *The New York Times*
 Author, *America's Women: Four Hundred Years of Dolls, Drudges, Helpmates and Heroines*

Tuesday, May 4, 2004 ~ The Harvard Club

Save the Date!**NYWBA Annual Dinner ~ May 26, 2004**

NYWBA will honor **Linda Greenhouse** -
 NY Times Reporter for U.S. Supreme Court

and **Hon. Jacqueline Silberman** -
 NYS Chief Admin. Judge for Matrimonial Matters

"Just the Facts, Ma'am: Interviewing Techniques"

On February 18, the NYWBA presented a panel discussion entitled "Just the Facts, Ma'am: Interviewing Techniques." The CLE program was co-sponsored by and held at Clifford Chance US LLP. The event had a very good turnout, with more than 65 attendees.

The program targeted the legal skill of gathering facts through client and third-party interviews, a skill which is valuable in both the litigation and corporate realms. Program speakers had extensive interviewing experience and provided insights that were helpful not only for novices, but for seasoned practitioners as well. Attendees received three skills CLE credits and a handout packet containing a substantive outline on interviewing techniques as well as a set of relevant articles.

NYWBA President Elizabeth Bryson moderated the panel discussion. The panelists were Susan Bender, Judge Laura Drager, Lori Martin, Lecia Smith, and Margaret Blair Soyster. Susan Bender is a matrimonial lawyer and partner at Bender Burrows & Rosenthal LLP, and she is an NYWBA Director. Judge Laura Drager is a Supreme Court Justice in the Matrimonial Part in New York County, and she is also an NYWBA Director. Lori Martin is a securities lawyer, in-house

counsel, and first vice-president at Merrill Lynch Investment Managers. Lecia Smith is a senior private investigator and managing partner for litigation at the James Mintz Group. Margaret Blair Soyster is an employment lawyer and partner at Clifford Chance US LLP.

The topics discussed during the program included the following: (1) interviewing a client during an initial consultation; (2) interviewing a corporate employee while representing the corporation as client; (3) approaching a hostile interviewee; (4) dealing with special interviewees such as children; (5) preparing and outlining notes for an interview; (6) practicing good questioning techniques such as asking open-ended questions, developing a chronology of events, and eliciting stories; (7) assessing the credibility of a client or third-party interviewee; (8) memorializing the interview; (9) handling factual "surprises" after conducting interviews; and (10) dealing with conflicts of interest and other ethical issues that may arise.

For a copy of the handout materials, please contact Teresa Schiller at Clifford Chance US LLP at teresa.schiller@cliffordchance.com or 212-878-3003.



Panelists Susan Bender, Margaret Blair Soyster, Lecia Smith, Elizabeth Bryson (moderator), Hon. Laura Drager, and Lori Martin (l-r).



CLE program organizer Teresa Schiller, Pro Bono and Community Programs Manager at Clifford Chance US LLP and an NYWBA director.



WEB CITES

Welcome to the third in our series of interactive tech columns, sponsored by the Technology and the Internet for Lawyers Committee. This month we feature **Landlord-Tenant (LT) Law**.

A. Overviews of landlord-tenant law of commercial and residential property, and guides to state materials

1. Cornell University. Includes some case law:
www.law.cornell.edu/topics/landlord_tenant.html.
 2. State laws governing landlords and tenants. Includes downloadable information from the New York State Bar Association:
www.rentlaw.com
 3. Legal Encyclopedia. Articles and tips on LT relations including dispute resolution, not necessarily for lawyers:
www.nolo.com/lawcenter/index
 4. Online resource for residential tenants:
www.tenant.net
- B. Legal directories with links to other sites
1. Catalog of catalogs of worldwide law:
www.catalaw.com
 2. Hieros Gamos. Guide to worldwide law:
www.hg.org
 3. West's Encyclopedia of American Law (see Practice Area, Landlord Tenant):
www.wld.com
 4. The 'Lectric Law Library. For the free-spirited, all sorts of legal issues and legalisms, forms, and even lawyer jokes (see Rotunda, Laypeople's Law Lounge, Real Property and Renting):
www.lectlaw.com

C. Real estate contract and leasing forms

1. Blumberg Forms:
www.blumberg.com/forms/newyork/l.html.
2. New York State and City downloadable forms for transfer of homes and condominiums:
www.ci.nyc.ny.us/finance

And don't forget search engines such as www.webcrawler.com, www.google.com, www.yahoo.com, www.altavista.com.

Our next few columns will address securities law and matrimonial law. Please send your suggestions for web site research to Eleanor Vale (techcolumn@nywba.org). We look forward to receiving your contributions. Happy Hunting!

- Eleanor Vale

We intend this as a service to our members. As with all research tools, you should use your judgment in assessing the accuracy and completeness of the information you find on the Internet.

COMMITTEE CALENDAR

The **Technology & Internet For Lawyers Committee** will be meeting on **Monday, March 15, 2004, 6:15 p.m.** at the offices of NYWBA President Elizabeth Bryson, New York Life, Room 2612, entrance at 44 East 27th Street [between Park and Madison Avenues]. New members are welcome. Light refreshments will be served. For information or to RSVP, please contact Kay Marmorek, co-chair, at 212-748-5967 or til@nywba.org.

The **Trusts & Estates Committee** will be meeting on **Monday, March 22, 2004 at 6:00 p.m.** at Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP, 787 Seventh Avenue (51-52 St.), NYC 10019. The meeting is open to all NYWBA members. Please RSVP to Co-Chair Loretta Ippolito (lippolito@willkie.com), or call Loretta's secretary, Annette Piazza, at 212-728-8334. (Your RSVP will ensure that your name will be on the Security list.)

WBASNY Statewide Mentoring Program - Mentors Needed

The Women's Bar Association of the State of New York created a mentoring program in 2002 to operate in all WBASNY chapters throughout New York State, and it is seeking mentors to partner with a flood of new applicants.

The WBASNY mentoring program is designed to provide a link to resources in the legal community for law students and new graduates transitioning into legal careers. The goals are as follows: (1) orient mentored students and new lawyers to law firm or institutional culture; (2) introduce professional expectations; (3) assist less-advantaged female professionals; and (4) help students and new lawyers build a more satisfying and productive career. WBASNY's mentoring program is not a replacement for a headhunter or career services organization, a "fast track," or a replacement for on-the-job training. It is, however, a terrific way to build relationships and for mentors to help younger women succeed. The program is structured flexibly.

This program has been so successful that WBASNY recently received a large number of applications from students (many submitted via the WBASNY website), and it is seeking mentors to meet the demand. If you are interested in being a mentor, please contact our Mentoring Program Liaison, Lisa Bauer, at Proskauer Rose LLP, 1585 Broadway, New York, NY 10036. Lisa can be reached via phone at (212) 969-3221 and via e-mail at lbauer@proskauer.com. You can also fill out a mentor application form on the WBASNY website (www.wbasny.org).

As NYWBA President Beth Bryson said in her column last month, "[Being a mentor] doesn't take much time, and it will not only change the life of the person whom you advise, it will change your life as well, providing a richness of experience and a wonderful sense of accomplishment."

NYWBA Foundation Grant Recipient Interned at inMotion

By Tanya George

As an NYWBA Foundation grant recipient, I interned at inMotion during Spring and Summer 2003. I first learned of inMotion at a panel discussion for students looking for internship opportunities during the fall semester of my first year at NYU Law School. I was interested in rounding out my first year of law school with some real-world legal experience, and, as my rent had just increased, I was hoping to find a paid position. My women's studies background and experience as a sexual assault peer educator drew me to inMotion. The part-time internship - paid for by NYWBA Foundation, Inc. -- turned out to be the most valuable learning experience of my spring semester; I enjoyed it so much that I ended up working there during the summer on a full-time basis. Even now I occasionally go in to help with client intake and to work on cases.

InMotion does amazing, much-needed work. It provides family and matrimonial legal services for low-income women, many of whom are victims of domestic violence. Throughout the year, inMotion offers training sessions for attorneys at large New York law firms that cover a range of legal issues including divorce, child support, child custody, and orders of protection. Additionally, inMotion finds representation for women in need of help by sending out a digest of current pro bono cases to inMotion-trained attorneys. InMotion also runs a program called the RITE workshop through which women learn to represent themselves in uncontested divorce proceedings with the help of legal assistants working pro bono. The organization is in the process of developing a similar workshop for battered immigrant women seeking residency through the VAWA self-petition process.

During my spring and summer internships, I was able to gain truly valuable legal experience. My responsibilities included conducting client intake and performing brief-writing services for pro se clients. On Thursdays, the Manhattan office has traditionally conducted client intake over the telephone, receiving women's calls from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. I and others in the office who were taking the calls would try to gather as much information as possible so that inMotion could try to place the women's cases with attorneys. If no attorneys were available, we would provide advice and counsel over the phone or give referrals to other organizations in the area. These calls were intense twenty- to forty-minute conversations in which women were discussing the details of their personal relationships, the abuse they suffered, and the kind of assistance they needed. Initially, when I decided to work for inMotion, I was quite sure that I would not like having such constant, intimate contact with clients and that I would have to stretch myself in order to do well in this area. However, within the first couple of weeks I discovered that I actually liked relating to women on such a personal level and that I had an aptitude for it. I became conscious of the fact that my role held much responsibility: the callers were often on the cusp of making life-changing decisions, and the smallest move on my part could tip the scale one way or the other.

Performing brief-writing services for pro se clients gave me the rare opportunity to meet with clients while still in law school. When a woman has been served with divorce papers, she has only twenty days to respond to her husband and the court with

either a Notice of Appearance or a Verified Answer. This is generally not enough time for inMotion to place a matter with an attorney, so I and others would fill the gap by helping clients to draft their papers, and thus avoid default. I met with several pro se clients to help them write about what they wanted to admit, deny, and counterclaim. I also wrote some motions to vacate default divorce judgments.

My work at inMotion was an essential component of my education during my first year of law school. I gained insight into the practice of law and the workings of a nonprofit organization - a much-needed balance to the first-year class schedule. Through giving referrals to other organizations, helping out with the benefit auction, and attending receptions honoring pro bono attorneys, I began to understand the web of legal services in New York and to figure out ways that I could continue to participate in the future. I am grateful to have established a connection with inMotion and the wonderful people who work there, and I am looking forward to working with them throughout my legal career.

WBASNY Legislation Day

On March 23, representatives from several WBASNY chapters will head for Albany en masse to meet with legislators about various pieces of pending and proposed legislation. By coordinating this group trip, WBASNY hopes to maximize its ability to persuade legislators on key issues for New Yorkers.

The WBASNY Legislative Committee and chapter legislative committees are currently deciding what legislation to focus on during the Legislation Day discussions. Some possibilities are as follows: (1) a proposal for a bill amending Domestic Relations Law (DRL) Section 170 to include provisions for no-fault divorce; (2) mental health legislation, known as "Timothy's Law," which makes health benefits for mental illness on a parity with benefits for other illnesses (this law will likely be agreed upon by both houses and signed by Governor Pataki in some form of compromise); (3) legislation regarding judges' consideration when setting bail of aggravated circumstances related to orders of protection; (4) legislation regarding the expansion of "family" within the law relating to orders of protection; (5) legislation relating to the burden of proof in modifications of orders of protection; and (6) legislation criminalizing the obstruction of 911 emergency phone calls.

For more information about Legislation Day and commentary on these issues, please contact Jane Bevans at (212) 699-4597 or e-mail her at szokie@aol.com.

SAVE THE DATE!

LEGISLATION DAY - March 23, 2004

Join us in Albany! WBASNY encourages NYWBA and all other chapters to send members to Albany for Legislation Day. Please contact Jane Bevans at (212) 699-4597 or email her at szokie@aol.com.

WBASNY Committee on International Women's Rights

WBASNY's Committee on International Women's Rights (the "Committee") met on January 31 to discuss the problem of "honor killings" and "honor crimes." The Committee also discussed a February 29 United Nations program on women's issues.

The Committee has chosen to focus its immediate efforts on the problem of "honor killings," whereby thousands of women around the world are murdered in the name of family "honor." Given recent media attention, "honor crimes" have come under increasing global scrutiny. In many countries, particularly in the Middle East and South Asia, women who commit what families deem to be sexual indiscretions are stabbed, burned, beaten, and maimed by their husbands, fathers, and brothers. These "indiscretions" include not only marital infidelities, but also attempts to divorce or separate, refusals of arranged marriages, and even mere flirtations. Even more disturbingly, honor crimes are occurring in countries with strong relationships to the United States and in countries that have laws condemning such crimes. The lack of enforcement of such laws and the absence of punishment and penalties for such crimes is shameful.

United States Congressman Jerrold Nadler (D-NY) (<http://www.house.gov/nadler/>) has drafted a resolution to raise awareness of the issue and to propose that the United States work with foreign law enforcement and judicial

agencies to more effectively address the investigation and prosecution of honor crimes. Congressman Nadler's resolution is currently under committee consideration, and the Committee intends to support Nadler's initiative by drafting and submitting a resolution.

Further, the Committee is considering the possibility of a letter-writing campaign to contact specific countries' leaders to raise awareness of the issue and to urge enforcement of existing laws and penalties.

The Committee also discussed - and Women's Bar members subsequently attended - a February 29 program entitled "NGO Consultation: Peace and Partnership." The program was sponsored by the NGO (Non-Governmental Organization) Committee on the Status of Women, which is a Committee of the Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations. The program addressed women's participation in conflict prevention, management, and resolution, as well as the role of men and boys in achieving gender equality.

For more information about the Committee, please contact NYWBA delegate Amy Halpert at Clifford Chance US LLP at 212-878-3165 or at amy.halpert@cliffordchance.com.

~ Amy Halpert

Trusts & Estates Committee Holds Very Successful Inaugural Meeting

The newly revitalized Trusts & Estates Committee held its first meeting on February 5, 2004. NWYBA President Beth Bryson was present to provide support for the new Co-Chairs, Leona Beane, Loretta A. Ippolito, and Corinne Marcus, and to welcome the members of the Committee. The members comprise a diversified group of energetic women with different backgrounds, representing two large law firms, a mid-sized firm, and a number of sole practitioners. Viewed from another angle, the members include estate and tax planning experts, litigators, new lawyers, people who teach law, and experts in guardianship and elder law.

After introductions and a discussion of the members' practice areas, the Committee covered a wide range of topics of interest to T&E practitioners. One area of interest was some of the relative advantages of using revocable trusts with pour over wills, as opposed to testamentary trusts, in certain situations. Several related issues were covered concerning appointment of Successor Trustees. The group also discussed difficulties that numerous practitioners have experienced in obtaining medical records due to the passage of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act ("HIPAA"), and how the inclusion of the certain language in health care proxies and other consents (even though not "legally required") can facilitate the disclosure of medical records.

Everyone who attended was enthusiastic about this Committee, and the results of the evening show that when a group of dynamic and energetic women from the Association get together and brainstorm, amazing things happen.

Our next meeting of the Trusts and Estates Committee will be held on Monday, March 22, 2004 at 6:00 p.m. at Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP, 787 Seventh Avenue (51-52 St.), NYC 10019. Among other topics, we will be discussing the proposed new power of attorney legislation (a copy of which can be found on the NYS Law Revision website). The meeting is open to all members of the New York Women's Bar Association who would like to attend and join the Committee. Please just confirm your attendance in advance so that your name will be on the Security List. You can RSVP to Co-Chair Loretta Ippolito (lippolito@willkie.com), or call Loretta's secretary, Annette Piazza, at 212-728-8334.

~ Leona Beane



Newsletter Deadline and Contact Information

Submissions must be sent to the Newsletter Committee by the **10th** of the month for publication in the following month's newsletter. Please e-mail articles, notes on members, committee calendars, and any other announcements to **Teresa Schiller, Esq.**, tel. no. 212-878-3003, email newsletter@nywba.org.

NYWBA List Serve

The NYWBA List Serve provides up-to-the-moment information concerning events, programs, and job announcements through email. Please email us at info@nywba.org if you have an announcement you would like to post on the list serve or if you would like to be added to the list serve.

Have you changed your address, firm, phone number or other information? Please call 212-360-7055 or send an e-mail to "info@nywba.org" with the updated information. This will help us keep you informed and our records up-to-date.

Save the Date!

Annual Meeting of the Association
& Election of NYWBA Officers,
Directors and WBASNY Delegates

followed by

NYWBA Annual Ethics Forum -
Ethics And Professionalism For
Judges And Lawyers ~ Perspectives From
The Bench, Bar & Grievance Committee
(2 Ethics CLE Credits), featuring:

Hon. Betty Weinberg Ellerin, Deborah A. Scalise,
Andral Bratton & Robin E. Eichen (moderator)

Wednesday, April 28, 2004

Visit our website at www.nywba.org

President

Elizabeth A. Bryson

Vice-Presidents

Catherine M. Foti

Myra L. Freed

Christina Kallas

Treasurer

Janet I. Cord

Recording Secretary

Elise A. Yablonski

Corresponding Secretary

Jo Ann Douglas

Board of Directors

Lisa A. Bauer

Susan L. Bender

Jane Bevans

Diana E. Ceccacci

Hon. Laura E. Drager

Robin E. Eichen

Hon. Phyllis Gangel-Jacob

Hon. Sherry Klein Heitler

Phyllis S. Koffman

Nancy L. Lazar

Kay Marmorek

Marjorie A. Martin

Milagros Matos

Hon. Angela Mazzarelli

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