



## *Celebrating Our 75th Year*

### **Kick-Off Meeting for the 2009-2010 Mentoring Circles Program**

#### **Attention Members**

The NYWBA's award-winning Mentoring Circles Program allows members at all stages of their careers to join with their peers to foster their personal and professional development. Members benefit from direct mentoring as they share ideas for meeting challenges in their careers and personal lives in a supportive and encouraging environment.

Participants in existing mentoring circles and members interested in joining a mentoring circle should plan to attend. If you are not yet part of a mentoring circle or would like more information, this kick-off meeting is the perfect place to start!

*Attendance will be limited to the first 100 members who register.*

#### **When:**

Tuesday, October 13, 2009, 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

#### **Where:**

Offices of NEWSWEEK  
395 Hudson Street, Third Floor  
(corner of Hudson and Houston Streets)

#### **RSVP by October 7, 2009**

*Go online and use this link to RSVP:*  
<http://www.nywba.org/mentoringcircles/>

**NOTE:** You must be a current member for the 2009-2010 membership year to attend this program.

If you joined or renewed after June 1, 2009, thank you. If you are not yet a member for 2009-2010, go to [www.nywba.org/membership](http://www.nywba.org/membership) to access our secure online membership form, or email [info@nywba.org](mailto:info@nywba.org) to have a membership form sent to you.

**For the latest news and information on programs and events, check NYWBA online at [www.nywba.org](http://www.nywba.org).**

### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE** **Can I Give You A Hug?**

OCTOBER 2009



*Donna M. Praiss*

In the morning, our kitchen often resembles mission control as we launch our children onto the path for school. Homework? Check. Snacks? Check. PTA dues? Check. Picture day form? Check. Library book? Check. Viola? Check. Shoes? Check. I do not mean to suggest that our household runs with the same precision and calculated steps as NASA. We have had our own "Apollo 11" incidents on occasion that have challenged us to a game of "are you smarter than a first grader". Most recently, we came together with glue sticks and mixed media over cereal bowls and milk splatter to complete a homework assignment discovered in the bottom of a backpack. We have been playing this game long before Jeff Foxworthy made us question whether our kids were keeping valuable information from us.

Amidst the confusion and fast pace of our mornings, our five-year-old will abruptly stop eating her Froot Loops, get out of her chair, and say "Mommy, can I hug you?" While the countdown clock does not slow, the morning tension lifts with this simple and kind-hearted expression. In the moment we embrace, it reminds us that we are here together and not simply crossing off another page on the calendar square filled with appointments, due dates and daily nourishment. Some days, the journey to school is even further lengthened as we walk there and greet neighbors along the way. Sure, we could drive and drop off to get to our destination sooner, but we will get there eventually with this small detour out of our pre-planned day and perhaps learn some interesting fact about grade school along the way. There are so many ways in which we come together with people who bring meaning to our lives - our family, our school, our congregation, our colleagues at work. This month, the New York Women's Bar Association offers lawyers and law students another way to connect - through our Mentoring Circles program.

The NYWBA, along with Mentoring Co-Chairs Andrea Vacca and Randy Shapiro, is inspired by this economic climate to re-energize our highly-praised system of establishing groups of legal professionals to mentor each other. Whether young or old, each member has something to contribute to the professional

*Continued on page 2*

**The New York Women's Bar  
Association Foundation Announces  
the New Ellerin Fellow**

*By Annie M. Ugurlayan*

The NYWBA and the NYWBA Foundation are pleased to announce that the second Hon. Betty Weinberg Ellerin Fellow is Annie Nazarian, a third-year law student at New York University School of Law. The Hon. Betty Weinberg Ellerin Fellowship was founded in 2006 to honor Justice Ellerin, the first woman to serve as Presiding Justice of the Appellate Division, First Department, a Past President of the NYWBA and a mentor to women lawyers and judges. The purpose of the Fellowship is to offer law students the opportunity to intern with a sitting judge. The NYWBA Foundation is responsible for administering the Fellowship, and the Foundation Board wishes to give special thanks and recognition to Foundation Board member and Past NYWBA President Martha E. Gifford for her hard work in making the Ellerin Fellowship a reality.

Annie Nazarian is a recipient of New York University School of Law's Dean's Scholarship and has worked as a summer associate at Proskauer Rose LLP and Davis & Gilbert LLP. She has also served as a Court-Appointed Mediator for the Brooklyn Small Claims Court and as First Year Class Representative for the Student Bar Association at New York University School of Law. Ms. Nazarian received her B.A. in Political Science from the University of California, Los Angeles where she was an Alumni Scholar. Prior to law school, she worked in various capacities in city government as well as in marketing and human resources for an advertising agency. Ms. Nazarian is fluent in Spanish and Armenian. She has also completed the 2006 Los Angeles marathon (which, speaking from personal experience, is no small feat!)

Ms. Nazarian will be interning this fall for the Honorable Carol Edmead, a Justice of the New York County Supreme Court. Upon completion of her Fellowship, she will present a report on her experience. The NYWBA and NYWBA Foundation congratulate Ms. Nazarian on her award and wish her success in her work with Justice Edmead.

*Annie M. Ugurlayan is a Senior Staff Attorney at the National Advertising Division. She joined the NYWBA as a student member and now serves as Co-Chair of the Newsletter Committee.*



**CORRECTION:** The author of the *International Women's Day Event* article in the September 2009 issue was Shelly-Ann Maye, not Denise Scotto as listed. Shelly-Ann Maye is currently the legislative liaison for the New York County Lawyers Association Civil Rights and Liberties Committee. She is also a member of the New York City Bar Association's Administrative Law Committee.

Many apologies for the error.

*President's Message continued from Page 1*

development and personal benefit of the members of the group. A seasoned lawyer has the opportunity to gain a new perspective about the future generation and access to those in the profession rising up the ranks, while more junior lawyers gain career advice and the opportunity to interact and learn about things not taught in law school, such as business development, which is key to success within the profession. We thank Newsweek, Inc. for providing us with a large meeting space to meet this need of our legal community.

Let me end with a quote from a seasoned statesman that is apropos. "We make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give." Winston Churchill no doubt surrounded himself with many mentors in his life to make this observation. I hope you will put the October 13th kick-off event for the NYWBA's Mentoring Circles on your calendar and circle it.

*Annie*

***A Special Fashion Evening  
and Trunk Show***



CARLISLE / per se

for NYWBA Members

**Tuesday, October 27, 2009  
6:00 to 8:00 PM**

to be held at the  
**Carlisle Collection Showroom**  
16 East 52nd Street, NY  
16th Floor

Enjoy cocktails while previewing the Fall/Holiday Collections.

Space is limited so RSVP early by going online and use this link: <http://www.nywba.org/carlislecollection/>

**Standing Room Only at September  
Matrimonial & Family Law Committee**  
*By Sophie Jacobi*

The Matrimonial & Family Law Committee had a good turnout for its September monthly meeting. It was standing room only at the office of Blank Rome LLP, with a nice mix of veteran and new NYWBA members. Rhonda Ores (partner at Fox Rothschild LLP) gave a rundown of the most recent statutory changes and Michael Stutman (partner of Mayerson Stutman Abramowitz LLP) recapped some of the more interesting decisions issued over the last 5-6 months. Committee members then discussed the impact on, and effect of, new statutes and decisions within the practice area.

The Committee is looking forward to a big crowd at its next meeting to be held on October 21, 2009, when the Matrimonial Judge's Court Attorneys will present and discuss what works and what doesn't in their courtrooms. At least 5 and possibly all 10 Court Attorneys are expected to attend. The October meeting will be held at 6:15 p.m. at the offices at Blank Rome LLP, 405 Lexington Avenue, NYC. Please RSVP early by sending an email to Co-Chairs Briana Denney, Sophie Jacobi & Hon. Andrea Masley at M&F@nywba.org, or call Ms. Denney at 212-684-1000.

*Sophie Jacobi is associated with Mayerson Stutman Abramowitz, LLP and specializes in matrimonial and family law matters. Ms. Jacobi received her JD from Loyola University Chicago in 2003.*

**NOTES ON MEMBERS**

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

**COMMITTEE NEWS**

**Matrimonial & Family Law Committee** - The Matrimonial & Family Law Committee meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 6:15 p.m. at the offices of Blank Rome LLP, 405 Lexington Ave., NYC. To RSVP, send an email to Co-Chairs Briana Denney, Sophie Jacobi & Hon. Andrea Masley at M&F@nywba.org, or call Ms. Denney at 212-684-1000.

**Other NYWBA Committees** - Other committees also host programs and hold substantive meetings throughout the year, and many are looking for new members. If you are interested in joining a Committee or attending a meeting, contact the appropriate Committee Chair (names and contact information are posted at [www.nywba.org/committees](http://www.nywba.org/committees)), or send a note to [info@nywba.org](mailto:info@nywba.org).

*If you are interested in chairing or forming a Committee, send a note to [President@nywba.org](mailto:President@nywba.org) to express your interest and provide information about your background and experience in the subject area(s) covered by the Committee.*

**COLUMN WRITERS NEEDED!**

*The Committee to Advance the Status of Women  
is looking for Column Writers!*

Several firms have volunteered to be interviewed by NYWBA as subjects for our "Spotlight on a Firm" series, which explains how firms help their women attorneys.

If you would like to write a Spotlight column about one of these firms, please contact:

**Brenda Pomerance**  
(212) 245-3940  
[survey@nywba.org](mailto:survey@nywba.org)

**Celebrating 75 Years!**

At our Annual Dinner, to be held this Spring 2010, we will be celebrating our 75th anniversary.

If you have any archival material such as photos, announcements or other memorabilia that you would like to share, please contact us at [info@nywba.org](mailto:info@nywba.org)

**NYCLA's Law-Related Education Committee**

*together with the  
NYWBA's Children's Rights Committee  
ask you to join us on*

**Tuesday, October 6, 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM**

**Social Evolution in the Age of Obama:  
From Gang Communities to  
Communities of Service**

The conference will bring together members of the community and government to discuss youth at risk and gang prevention strategies. For more information and information about the distinguished speakers, go to our website ([www.nywba.org](http://www.nywba.org)).

*The conference is free to attend and all are welcome.*

**Location:**  
NYCLA, 14 Vesey St.  
(between Broadway & Church)

To RSVP, send a note to [dlamb@nycla.org](mailto:dlamb@nycla.org).  
For more information, contact  
Denise Scotto ([Denise.Scotto@gmail.com](mailto:Denise.Scotto@gmail.com)).

## CEDAW Committee: 2009 NY Summer Session

*By Denise Scotto*

The 44th session of the Convention to Eliminate All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) Committee was held from July 20 to August 7 at the New York headquarters of the United Nations. CEDAW has been recognized as the International Bill of Human Rights for women and girls. It aims to end all forms of discrimination against women and girls in every sphere and to guarantee them civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights. CEDAW and its General Recommendations also protect women and girls from various forms of violence including harmful traditional practices, such as female genital mutilation and early marriage.

This session was particularly noteworthy because, in addition to examining certain country reports, the CEDAW Committee considered issuing two new significant General Recommendations, one concerning the issue of older women often neglected by societies, and the other relating to the negative economic consequences of dissolution of marriage on women and their children due to divorce or death. UN entities, NGOs, and others delivered interventions overwhelmingly in support of both themes.

Specific issues that were discussed regarding the societal neglect of older women included the inability to flee persecution, statelessness, difficulty in making asylum claims, lack of access to health care, lack of social support benefits and networks, violence, and the negative impact of the economic crisis upon women. Denise Scotto, Esq. provided a written statement noting the specialized area of elder law in the United States and many developed countries and explaining its significance as well as the concept of elder abuse, particularly as it concerns women.

The discussion concerning the economic consequences of dissolution of marriage by divorce or death generated participation primarily by those involved in the legal field because, as it is well known, in most societies, marriage is regarded as a contract. The issues that were highlighted included: registration of marriage; the right of women to initiate divorce; religious & customary law & practices; polygamy; marital support; child custody; distribution of assets and the right of women to manage property and widowhood. Ms. Scotto, with support from Jill Laurie Goodman, provided a written statement on this critical area of concern and delivered an oral intervention at the session. Some of the key points relate to equality before the law, the legal process and legal aid, increasing the number of women in the legal and judicial professions and conducting gender sensitivity training.

The CEDAW Committee working groups will continue to analyze the issues and expect to produce preliminary drafts of its proposed General Recommendations in early 2010.

*Denise Scotto is the Co-Chair of the NYWBA Children's Rights Committee and serves as the International Federation of Women Lawyers' representative to the United Nations. She was formerly the Social Affairs Officer for the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs.*



*Denise Scotto (r.) with CEDAW Committee experts from Bangladesh and China*

### A wine tasting with "Women of the Vine" author Deborah Brenner

Tuesday, October 20, 2009  
6:00 to 8:00 PM



The event will be held in the offices of  
Sonnenschein Nath & Rosenthal LLP  
1221 Avenue of the Americas  
Tribeca Conference Room, 24th floor

\$20 for NYWBA members  
and \$25 for non-members

Go online and use this link to RSVP:  
<http://www.nywba.org/WineTastingRSVP/>

### ***Place Your Ad Now!***

The **NYWBA NEWSLETTER**, with a monthly circulation of more than 1,000 in the NYC metro area, is a great place to advertise.

For information about placing an ad in the NYWBA Newsletter, please contact Newsletter Co-Chair Carla P. Vogel (newsletter@nywba.org or 201-679-6739)

## NEW YORK WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES NEW MEMBERS OF ITS ADVISORY BOARD

*By Marilyn C. Kunstler*

The New York Women's Bar Association Foundation, Inc. is pleased to announce that nine outstanding women of vision have agreed to serve on the Foundation's Advisory Board. The Advisory Board, which meets approximately twice a year, assists the Foundation's Board of Directors in promoting the Foundation's mission.

At its May 7th kick-off meeting, the distinguished group suggested many valuable strategies to enhance the Foundation's profile and to generate fund-raising and grant-making opportunities, as well as to recommend other types of program activities, including speakers for the Foundation's highly successful Author Breakfast series.

The nine new members of the Advisory Board are:

- Ida O. Abbott, Principal, Ida Abbott Consulting -- Ms. Abbott's firm provides customized consultation, training, facilitation, and coaching services for clients in business, higher education, and other professions, especially law firms. Ida is the author of the Foundation's publication, *The Lawyer's Guide to Mentoring*, available through NALP.
- Gina S. Anderson, VP & Deputy General Counsel, Penguin Group -- Ms. Anderson is a founding member and past president of the Board of Directors of the Foundation. It is due largely to her extraordinary efforts and leadership that the Foundation exists today.
- Kathleen Brady, Brady & Associates, Career Planners LLP -- Ms. Brady is a recognized expert on topics including career planning for law students and experienced attorneys, networking strategies, interviewing techniques and recovering from a layoff as well as business management skills such as delegating, delivering feedback and effective mentoring. She is also a past president of the National Association for Law Placement (NALP) and a founding member of the NALP Foundation for Research and Education.
- Denise Coleman -- Ms. Coleman had a successful 20-year career in higher education and non-profit administration, including development, public relations, government relations, and all other constituent relations. She was a member of the Foundation Board from 1996-2008 and played a key role in many of the Foundation's outreach efforts. Ms. Coleman is Co-Chair of the Government Relations Committee of the National MS Society/New York City Chapter.
- Myrna Felder -- Ms. Felder has a highly successful matrimonial practice and was President of the New York Women's Bar Association from 1976-1977. She worked to found the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York (WBASNY) and served as WBASNY president from 1986-1987. Among the many awards she has received, the most treasured are the Marilyn Menge Award from WBASNY in 1989 and the President's Special Award from the NYWBA in 2005.
- Nicole Gordon -- Ms. Gordon served as the Executive Director of the New York City Campaign Finance Board, considered a

model in the field of campaign finance, for 18 years. She previously served as Counsel to the Chairman of the New York State Commission on Government Integrity and as an Assistant Corporation Counsel in the Law Department of the City of New York. Ms. Gordon is a past President of the Council on Governmental Ethics Laws.

- Meryl Kaynard -- As Senior Vice President and Associate General Counsel at J.P. Morgan Chase, Ms. Kaynard headed the employment law group. More recently, she was named Director of Diversity/Special Counsel at Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP. She is co-chair of the Corporate Board of Advisors for Women Work!, a past co-chair of the NYWBA Committee on Equal Employment Opportunity for Women, and a member of NOW Legal Defense Legal Advisory Council and of NYU's Center for Labor and Employment Law. Ms. Kaynard is also a visiting professor at Hofstra University School of Law, teaching Advanced Issues in Labor and Employment Law. She was inducted into the YWCA Academy of Women Achievers in Industry, and she serves as a mediator at the Federal District Court for the Southern District of New York.
- Kathy Rodgers -- Ms. Rodgers is the immediate past president of Legal Momentum, which she joined in 1995 after a 14-year tenure at Barnard College. She serves on the boards or steering committees of many organizations, including the National Council of Women's Organizations and the National Council for Research on Women. She also serves on the Mayor's Committee on Appointments, is a member of the Board of Visitors of Columbia Law School, a past chair of the Committee on Women in the Profession of the New York City Bar Association, and a long-standing member of NYWBA.
- Carol A. Schrage -- Ms. Schrage has a highly successful solo practice. She is a long standing member of the NYWBA and has served as an officer and board member of both the Association and the Foundation.
- Susan Tiefenbrun, Professor of Law, Thomas Jefferson School of Law -- Ms. Tiefenbrun has been the Director of the Center for Global Legal Studies since 2003 and is the Vice President of the Law and Humanities Institute. She has published extensively in the areas of international human right law, law and literature, private international law and intellectual property. Professor Tiefenbrun has written articles on sex trafficking in women, and edited three books: *Law and the Arts* (1999), *Legal Ethics* (1999) and *War Crimes and War Crimes Tribunals* (1999).

The Foundation Board is honored to work with these distinguished members of its Advisory Board. For more information about the Foundation, see page 8.

*Marilyn C. Kunstler is a Partner in the Litigation Department of Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP, specializing in corporate governance, internal investigations, and complex securities and commercial litigation. She is also a member of the New York Women's Bar Association Foundation and a Past Treasurer of the Foundation.*

## The New York Women's Bar Association Membership Event: A Resounding Success Once Again!

*By Heather Kim Leifer and Jessica A. Ventarola*

The NYWBA Annual Membership Event was a tremendous success again this year. Our event, which took place at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP on September 14, was very well attended and resulted in more than forty new membership applications.

NYWBA President Donna Praiss welcomed the more than 200 members and guests in attendance. In addition to celebrating the NYWBA's 75th year, Ms. Praiss led us into a new era as she unveiled the Association's new logo. She also described two new committees recently approved by the NYWBA Board, Intellectual Property and Privacy & Cyberlaw, two very current and relevant fields representing a large number of women practitioners. Ms. Praiss spoke enthusiastically about upcoming programs, most notably the Mentoring Circles Program, which will have its 2009-2010 kick-off meeting on October 13, 2009.

Ms. Praiss then introduced Retired Chief Judge Judith Kaye who spoke eloquently of the NYWBA, recognizing the great strides that women have made in the legal fields and the many more accomplishments that we need to achieve in the future to overcome the gender equality barrier. She commended the support our organization lends to women and how valuable her membership has been to her.

We also heard a motivating presentation by Jane Schreiber, Director of Office of Counsel for Children and Parents, Appellate Division, First Department, who spoke of the positive impact that attorneys appointed to represent children and adults in Family Court make in our community. Ms. Schreiber announced a

unique program organized by the Appellate Division to introduce attorneys, admitted at least two years, to Family Court practice. The program, to be held October 21st -23rd, will assist those who attend with the next steps to receiving certification as a court appointed attorney in the Family Courts. Those who attend the program will receive CLE credit and those who complete the certification process will be paid \$75 an hour for representing children and adults before the Family Courts.

As published in our September newsletter, some Association business also was conducted at the reception making it a working event. NYWBA members in attendance voted in favor of amendments to the process for replacing officers or directors should they become unable to serve for any reason.

This year we added a charitable component to our annual membership event and collected donations of children's books from event attendees. This resulted in a large number and variety of books being shipped to the children's book library at the New York County Family Court in the name of the NYWBA's Judge Judith S. Kaye Children's Book Club.

The evening was an excellent opportunity for new and continuing members to meet and learn more about the extraordinary programs that our organization has to offer.

*Heather Kim Leifer has been Membership Committee Co-Chair since 2006. She specializes in Intellectual Property and Municipal Law practice. Jessica A. Ventarola has been Membership Committee Co-Chair since 2008. She specializes in Trusts and Estates and Guardianship Law practice.*



*Corresponding Secretary Kelly O'Neill Levy, past VP Sylvia E. Di Pietro, Director Jane Bevans and Director Andrea Vacca*



*President Donna M. Praiss, Director Kay Marmorek, Past President Elizabeth A. Bryson and Past President Jo Ann Douglas*



*Treasurer Julie Hyman and Director Myra L. Freed*



*Garry LoPreto, Director Patricia Ann Grant, Virginia A. LoPreto and Phyllis C. Solomon*



## MEMBERSHIP RECEPTION (con't)



*President Donna M. Praiss addressing attendees of the NYWBA's Annual Membership Reception*



*Hon. Judith S. Kaye acknowledging members' generous donations to the NYWBA's "Judge Judith S. Kaye Children's Book Club" and encouraging attorneys, judges and law students to be active members of the Women's Bar.*



*Jane R. Schreiber, Director of the Office of Counsel for Children and Parents of the New York Supreme Court, Appellate Division, First Department, speaking about the opportunity for attorneys to be trained to practice before the Family Courts in New York and to become certified as counsel for children and parents. (See announcement in this Newsletter about CLE-accredited training program scheduled for October 21-23, 2009.)*



*Hon. Ellen Gesmer, Past President Jo Ann Douglas, and Hon. Felice Shea (Advisory Council Member)*



*Hon. Karla M. Moskowitz, Past President and Justice of the Appellate Division, First Department; Marvin Moskowitz; and Hon. Helen E. Freedman, Justice of the Appellate Division, First Department.*



*Membership Committee Co-Chairs Jessica A. Ventarola and Heather K. Leifer*



*Director Bonnie Cohen-Gallet, Past President Martha L. Golar, Director Hon. Laura E. Drager and Susan Hochberg*

## CAROL FROHLINGER SPEAKS ON WOMEN AND NEGOTIATION AT NYWBA FOUNDATION BREAKFAST

By Laurie Berke-Weiss

Carol Frohlinger, noted speaker on women and negotiation, and Principal in the consulting firm Negotiating Women, shared her wisdom at the New York Women's Bar Association Foundation, Inc. Author's Breakfast on May 8, 2009. This "how to" event provided timely and invaluable career advice and support to the more than 70 women in attendance. Among them were a group of enthusiastic students from the Law and Public Service Program at Washington Irving High School.

Ms. Frohlinger, a lawyer and co-author of *Her Place At The Table: A Woman's Guide to Negotiating Five Key Challenges to Leadership Success*, captured the audience's attention with the research findings showing that women are more effective negotiating for others than for themselves. Among the undermining behaviors she identified that women typically fall subject to are "The Tiara Syndrome" or engaging in superficial "drive by" negotiations. As Ms. Frohlinger went on to discuss the strategic framework for achieving career advancement detailed in *Her Place At The Table*, there was furious note-taking.

According to Ms. Frohlinger, it is still a test for women to gain a place at the "leadership table," and she urged the audience to take charge of their careers and their lives through the use of negotiation. Before starting a negotiation to get that place at the table, she recommends taking five preliminary steps: 1) "drill deep" and get the "intelligence" you need for informed decisions; 2) mobilize your backers and obtain support; 3) garner the resources needed to assure success; 4) bring people on board who buy into your plan; and 5) look for an environment where you can make a difference.

Following her presentation, Ms. Frohlinger was warmly applauded, responded to numerous questions from event attendees, and signed copies of *Her Place At The Table*.

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*The New York Women's Bar Association Foundation, Inc. (NYWBAF) is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit charitable organization that funds charitable and philanthropic programs to aid women and children throughout Manhattan and beyond. Its mission is (1) to eliminate gender bias and other forms of discrimination from the legal system and legal profession, (2) to promote the social and economic equality, safety and well being of women and children, and (3) to address the unmet legal needs of women and children. For more information, please visit its website at <http://www.nywba.org/foundation>. The NYWBAF's Author Breakfasts are fundraising events, with the proceeds of tickets and book sales going to support the Foundation's fellowship programs for local area law school students, who spend a semester at inMotion, Sanctuary for Families, or Human Rights First. Previous breakfasts have featured well-known authors Dr. Sarah Weddington, Linda Fairstein, Kati Marton, Gail Collins, Beth Harpaz, Martha Burk, Linda Greenhouse, Joan Biskupic, Lynn Sherr and Margaret Heffernan. Please look for an announcement of the next breakfast.*

*Laurie Berke-Weiss is a member of the Board of the NYWBAF and a former NYWBA president. She is a member of Berke-Weiss & Pechman LLP, where her practice focuses on employment law.*

## NYWBA Membership Information

### Still Time to Renew!

The 2009-2010 membership year began on June 1st. Have you renewed your membership for the new year? Would your friends or colleagues benefit from NYWBA membership?

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 and participate in mentoring circles, attend our signature events, and get CLE credits at our innovative and compelling programs at significantly reduced cost.

It's easy to join or renew - go to [www.nywba.org](http://www.nywba.org) and click on "Membership" to access our secure online membership form.



## LEADS FOR A LEADER?



WBASNY Vice President and former NYWBA President seeks employment in the pro bono or non-profit field.

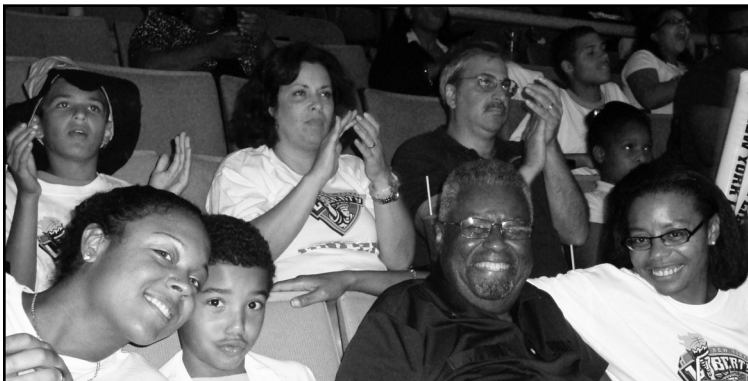
Experience includes coordination of pro bono program for Clifford Chance's U.S. offices and management of Clifford Chance Foundation, Inc.

Please contact Teresa Schiller  
917-733-8759  
[schillet\\_98@yahoo.com](mailto:schillet_98@yahoo.com)



## NYWBA Supports Breast Health Awareness with NY Liberty *By Jo Ann Douglas*

On August 21, 2009, about 30 long-time loyal and newly loyal friends and fans of the New York Liberty and the NYWBA made their way to Madison Square Garden to participate in Breast Health Awareness night. The excitement began early for us as we met to participate in the Liberty's Fan Tunnel, an avid group of fans of all ages, dressed in Liberty garb, going onto the basketball court to welcome the team as they came to warm up. We were treated to a wonderful game, as New York Liberty and the Connecticut Sun were playing catch-up with one another. Lots of tension and anticipation arose as the game went into overtime. But our team rallied once again and prevailed, bringing the crowd to its feet and our evening to a great end.



## WOULD YOU LIKE TO EXPAND YOUR PRACTICE?

The Office of Counsel for Children and Parents for the First Department is seeking attorneys to serve on the Panel of Attorneys who represent adults and children in Family Court proceedings. The Office of Counsel for Children and Parents is conducting a three-day program introducing attorneys to the Family Court practice.

The program is designed for attorneys who are interested in developing and expanding their current practice fields. Attorneys must be motivated and committed to representing poor people in Family and Supreme Courts. This program will provide a practical and substantive introduction to the practice.

The program is not intended for Family Court practitioners. After attending the three-day program, attorneys who qualify may be invited to be mentored by experienced family court practitioners. When attorneys have gained knowledge and experience, they may apply to the Panel of Counsel for Children and Parents by submitting an application for review and recommendation by the Family Court Advisory Committee for the First Department. The Committee recommends attorneys for certification who will then be eligible to be assigned to represent litigants in Family and Supreme Courts.

The program will be held on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, **October 21st, 22nd and 23rd** at the New York County Lawyers' Association located at 14 Vesey Street in lower Manhattan.

Attendees will be eligible to receive CLE credits. There will be a \$75 fee to cover the costs of materials. Checks are made payable to the Appellate Division, First Department and sent to the below address with your registration form (available at our website [www.nybwa.org](http://www.nybwa.org)). The Appellate Division, First Department has a Financial Hardship Policy. For further information, email [cdiaz@courts.state.ny.us](mailto:cdiaz@courts.state.ny.us).

Attorneys interested in attending must be admitted to the Bar for a minimum of two years. Attendance is limited, so early registration is recommended.

Office of Counsel for Children and Parents  
Supreme Court Appellate Division  
First Judicial Department  
41 Madison Avenue - 39th Floor  
New York, NY 10010



## *Help with the next NYWBA Survey of Manhattan Law Firms*

The Committee to Advance the Status of Women is preparing to launch its 2009 NYWBA Survey of Manhattan Law Firms.

See [www.nywba.org/surveyinfo](http://www.nywba.org/surveyinfo)  
for our 2007 Survey

**We need help contacting firms to participate.**

If you want to help, please contact

**Rachel Minter**  
(212) 643-0966  
[survey@nywba.org](mailto:survey@nywba.org)

Also, if you are in a firm that has a Manhattan office, please let us know to whom in your firm we should send the survey by sending an email to [survey@nywba.org](mailto:survey@nywba.org)



## ***SAVE THE DATE!***

The New York Women's Bar Association  
Foundation Author Breakfast Series

**Wednesday, December 2, 2009**  
**8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.**

Cornell Club  
6 East 44th Street, New York, NY

**Cost: \$75**

Guest Speaker: Judith S. Kaye  
(Chief Judge, New York State Court of Appeals, Retired)

*Invitation to follow*

For more information, please contact  
Karen Mitchell  
President of the New York Women's Bar Association  
Foundation at [Karen.mitchell@credit-suisse.com](mailto:Karen.mitchell@credit-suisse.com)

## NYWBA's Committee Chairs Convene to Confirm Plans for 2009-2010

By Elizabeth A. Bryson

On August 26, 2009, President Donna M. Praiss convened a meeting of the 2009-2010 Committee Chairs. She provided an overview of their roles as Chairs, and she led the group in a discussion of a wide range of topics, including committee governance and programs that are underway or being planned for the year. She also noted how participating in Committees, particularly as a Chair, supports the Association's mission and provides members with leadership skills and opportunities for advancement within the Association.

Senior members of the Association also made presentations, including Director & CLE Chair Yacine Barry; Chair of the Programs, Events and Arrangements Committee Diana Browne;

Past President Elizabeth Bryson; Vice President & Newsletter Co-Chair Carla P. Vogel and past NYWBA Treasurer and current WBASNY Finance Chair Janet Cord.

The Chairs also had the opportunity to present their vision for their Committee's activities and to network and exchange ideas. Ms. Praiss expressed her appreciation for everyone's dedication and enthusiasm, and she thanked Christine Harman and MetLife for hosting the meeting.

For a full report on the Committee Chairs meeting, go to our website ([www.nywba.org](http://www.nywba.org)).

*Elizabeth A. Bryson is a Past President of NYWBA and a past Officer of WBASNY.*



**Seated (l-r): Rachel Minter**, Co-Chair of the Committee to Advance the Status of Women in the Profession; **President Donna M. Praiss**; **Director Elizabeth A. Bryson**, Past President and Co-Chair of the By-Laws, Website and Long-Range Planning Committees; and **Janet I. Cord**, past Treasurer, and NYWBA Liaison to the WBASNY Finance and Long-Range Planning Committees.

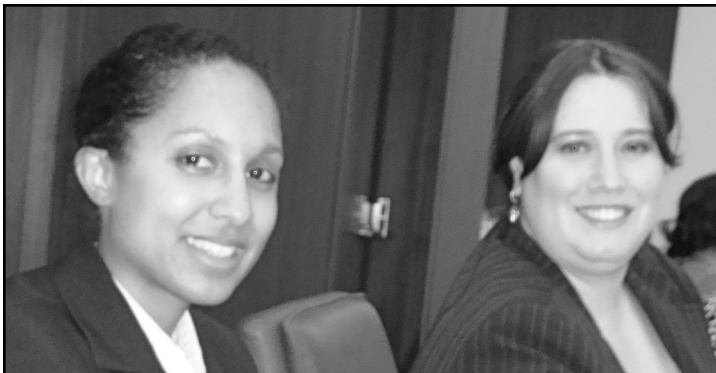


**Rebecca Adams Hollis and Christa M. Bosch**, Co-Chairs of the International Law and Practice Committee.

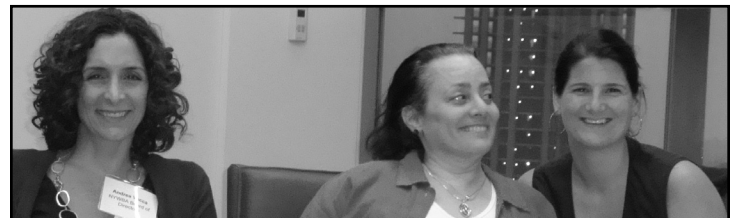
**Standing (l-r): Hon. Andrea Masley**, Co-Chair of the Matrimonial and Family Law Committee; **Patrice S. Ettinger**, Co-Chair of the Privacy and Cyberlaw Committee; **Diana G. Browne**, Co-Chair of the Programs, Events and Arrangements Committee; **Sophie Jacobi**, Co-Chair of the Matrimonial and Family Law Committee; **Rebecca Adams Hollis**, Co-Chair of the International Law and Practice Committee; **Director Andrea Vacca**, Co-Chair of the Alternate Dispute Resolution and Mentoring & Mentoring Circles Committees, and Chair of the Board's Logo Committee; **Christa M. Bosch**, Co-Chair of the International Law and Practice Committee; **Stephanie M. Adduci**, Co-Chair of our Students and New Lawyers Committee; **Director Yacine Barry**, Chair of the Continuing Education Committee and Liaison to WBASNY's CLE Committee; **Briana Denney**, Co-Chair of the Matrimonial and Family Law Committee; **Christine Harman**, Co-Chair of the Working Parents Committee; **Denise Scotto**, Co-Chair of the Children's Rights Committee and Liaison to the WBASNY Children's Rights Committee; and **Vice President Carla P. Vogel**, Co-Chair of the Newsletter Committee.



**Christine Harman**, Co-Chair of the Working Parent's Committee, and **Diana G. Browne**, Co-Chair of the Programs, Events and Arrangements Committee



**Director Yacine Barry**, Chair of the Continuing Education Committee and Liaison to WBASNY's CLE Committee and **Stephanie M. Adduci**, Co-Chair of our Students and New Lawyers Committee



**Director Andrea Vacca**, Co-Chair of the ADR and Mentoring Committees and Chair of the Board's Logo Committee; **Brenda Pomerance**, Co-Chair of the Committee to Advance the Status of Women in the Profession; and **Sophie Jacobi**, Co-Chair of the Matrimonial and Family Law Committee.

## 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 submit articles, announcements, save the dates, upcoming event programming, photos and committee or member news to [newsletter@nywba.org](mailto:newsletter@nywba.org). If you have any questions regarding content submissions, please call Carla Vogel at 201-679-6739 or Annie Ugurlayan at 212-705-0105.

## Do You Need to Update Your Membership Information?

Have you changed your address, firm, phone number, or other information? Send your updated information to "[info@nywba.org](mailto:info@nywba.org)" with the updated information. This will help us keep you informed about our programs, events and other benefits of membership.

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