



NEW YORK WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION

The Association is proud to announce several wonderful programs and events in November and December.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RECEPTION

New, current and prospective members will enjoy wonderful food and wine and have a chance to network. We will also honor our "Foundation Fellows."

Tuesday, November 9, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom, LLP
4 Times Square (42nd & Broadway)

RSVP to Ingrid Santos (212-644-4420, x271) or info@nywba.org

REPRESENTING COMMERCIAL CLIENTS IN REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

Co-sponsored by Westchester Women's Bar Association

Tuesday, November 9, 5:30 to 8:00 p.m.

(For details, see announcement inside)

NYWBA and ASSOCIATION OF THE BAR OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Free luncheon seminar for solo and small firm practitioners, and those who are considering starting their own practices

Wednesday, November 17, 12:30 to 2:00 p.m.

(For details, see announcement inside)

NYWBA and the FINANCIAL PLANNING ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK ALLIED PROFESSIONALS DINNER

A networking opportunity for attorneys and financial planners

Thursday, November 18

Registration at 5:30, dinner at 6:00 p.m.

(For details, see announcement inside)

NYWBA FOUNDATION BREAKFAST SPEAKER SERIES EVENT

*featuring BETH HARPAZ, Journalist and Author,
The Girls in the Van: A Reporter's Diary of the Campaign
Trail and Finding Annie Farrell: A Family Memoir*

Wednesday, December 1, 8:00 to 9:30 a.m.

The Harvard Club, 27 West 44th St. (5th and 6th Aves.)
\$75 (\$85 at door); RSVP to Tonya Gaetan (212-894-6806)

WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

*Presentation of the Inaugural
Betty Weinberg Ellerin Mentoring Award to
Honorable Betty Weinberg Ellerin*

Thursday, December 2, Cocktails 6 p.m., Dinner 7 p.m.

The New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, NY

RSVP to Linda Chiaverini (info@wbasny.org or 212-362-4445)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

November 2004

What a busy fall! Our membership drive is well underway, and at this rate we may set a record for memberships this year. Our committees have had a productive start to 2004-05, with the Judiciary Committee reviewing candidates for judicial office, and other committees planning programs, holding productive meetings and developing positions on important issues. As exciting, we have already held several successful events, and a number of wonderful programs are planned in the coming weeks.



Elizabeth A. Bryson

Photo: Daryl-Ann Saunders

The Association's **Annual Membership Reception** will be held on **Tuesday, November 9th**. This event is a terrific opportunity to network with friends and colleagues, and for new, current and prospective members to enjoy delicious food and wine in a wonderful setting. At the reception, we will also honor our "Foundation Fellows," law students whom our Foundation sponsors to work at organizations like InMotion and Sanctuary for Families. The Fellows help provide essential legal and support services to victims of domestic violence, persons seeking asylum, and others in desperate need. Be sure to read the article by Fellow Marina Ivolgina. We owe a huge debt of gratitude to Sheila Birnbaum and Skadden Arps for underwriting and hosting this wonderful event.

The Foundation has also scheduled its next Breakfast Series fundraising event, to be held on Wednesday, December 1st. The speaker will be Beth Harpaz, journalist and author of *The Girls in the Van: A Reporter's Diary of the Campaign Trail* and *Finding Annie Farrell: A Family Memoir*. Thanks to a generous donation by Ms. Harpaz and her publisher, copies of her new book will also be available for sale, and all proceeds will go to the Foundation.

Several other events are scheduled for November, including a) a terrific CLE program on representing commercial clients in real estate transactions, presented jointly by our Real Estate Committee and the Real Estate Committee of the Westchester Women's Bar Association; b) a free luncheon program for attorneys who are in solo or small firm practices or are contemplating starting their own practice, which we are co-sponsoring with the City Bar; and c) our "Allied Professionals Dinner." (For dates, times and details, see the announcements in this newsletter.)

We are co-hosting the Allied Professionals Dinner with the Financial Planning Association of New York. It will be the first in a series of networking events, which will give attorneys and financial planners the chance to get to know each other and share information about their practices. This will be particularly helpful for matrimonial,

Continued on page 2

Teresa Schiller Honored at 2004 Galaxy Awards

NYWBA Vice President Teresa Schiller was honored as "NYWBA's 2004 Woman of the Future" at the 2004 Galaxy Awards event sponsored by the New York Women's Agenda (NYWA) on May 19, 2004. Teresa was one of 36 women nominated by women's organizations as "extraordinary" based on her leadership capabilities, intelligence, commitment, and accomplishments in her chosen field. Teresa stated, "I was honored to receive the award and inspired by the achievements of the other award-winners, who are leaders in the law, business, communications, higher education, charities, and the arts."

The Galaxy Awards event, held at the Marriott Marquis Hotel, included an awards ceremony, a cocktail reception, a professional vocal performance of excerpts from the upcoming off-Broadway play *Her Song: A Herstory of Women and Song*, and a dessert reception. NYWBA Working Mothers Committee Co-Chair Christine Harman attended the event with Teresa.

In nominating Teresa for this prestigious award, the Association emphasized her numerous contributions in pro bono work. Teresa, an attorney at Clifford Chance US LLP, is manager of pro bono and community programs for the U.S. region. She coordinates the pro bono efforts of attorneys at the firm, develops charitable projects, and litigates for pro bono clients. These clients have included disabled tenants with housing access problems, families of September 11 victims, and disabled children in need of foster care.

NYWBA is a member organization of NYWA, which was founded in 1992 to bring major women's groups together under one umbrella and raise awareness in political, economic, and cultural circles of the needs of women and their families. NYWA is a coalition of over 100 diverse women's organizations, representing professional, education, civic, economic, and neighborhood-based interests. It presents a unified voice on important issues for nearly 100,000 women who belong to the member organizations. For more information about NYWA, please go to nywa.org.

The Association is thrilled that Teresa was selected for this honor, and we appreciate not only the difference that she makes in the lives of her and her firm's pro bono clients, but also her dedication to the Women's Bar and its mission.



Christine Harman & Teresa Schiller at 2004 Galaxy Awards event.

President's Message continued from page 1

family law, trusts and estates and business attorneys, since there are many circumstances where attorneys may need the services of a competent financial planner to assist a client (or themselves!).

I am also very excited about an upcoming WBASNY event. You will be receiving your formal invitations shortly, but I am pleased to announce that WBASNY has established a new award - the Betty Weinberg Ellerin Mentoring Award. The first recipient will be none other than the award's namesake, our own past President and mentor extraordinaire, the Honorable Betty Weinberg Ellerin. The presentation of this much-deserved award will be on December 2nd at the New York Botanical Garden, as part of WBASNY's 25th Anniversary celebrations.

Speaking of anniversaries, we are also making plans for our 70th Anniversary celebration, which will be held next spring and will give us the opportunity to honor our past Presidents. The NYWBA was incorporated in 1935, and we want to make a big splash to celebrate. If you would like to join the committee for this event, let me know.

I do want to comment on two serious issues. First, I was privileged to write an article in the *New York Law Journal* in late April about the importance of having attorneys and judges who are willing to go out on a limb to protect liberty, justice and due process. I commented on how these rights were being compromised by the unwillingness of the U.S. Government to grant hearings or even allow attorneys to meet with the prisoners at Guantánamo and in Iraqi jails. Notably, this article was written before the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that due process was being denied in these imprisonments, and before the horrific abuse at these facilities was revealed. The importance of our roles as attorneys, judges and guardians of liberty cannot be overstated.

Second, many of you are aware that the *Law Journal* published an article on October 25th about four incumbent judges who initially decided not to appear before several bar associations for judicial screenings. My response on behalf of the Association is posted on our website (www.nywba.org) and was published (with minor edits) by the *Law Journal* on October 28th. I am sure you will agree that having the New York Women's Bar Association and other bar associations participate in the judicial screening process helps ensure that we have the best possible judiciary that we can.

Finally, I would like to thank our friends at Judicial Title, and particularly Allison Sass, Regina MacKinnon and Amy Carlson, and our Program Committee Co-Chairs, Amy Saltzman and Laura Twomey, for all their hard work on a terrific program we jointly held in September entitled "Planning for Unmarried Couples." This substantive program was truly enlightening, raising many concerns about the complex property, tax and life choices faced by couples who, in most instances, are not allowed to marry, and thus do not have the legal privileges and protections given to married couples. Judicial Title graciously underwrote all of the expenses of this program, and they provided dinner to all of the participants. The program was a huge success, with over 100 participants earning CLE credits. We look forward to working with Judicial Title again on future programs.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

<i>Nancy Altfeder</i>	<i>Patricia Jackson</i>
<i>Joanna Bernard</i>	<i>Jennifer Tafet Klausner</i>
<i>Dorlisa S. Bey</i>	<i>Jamie Knoll</i>
<i>Margaret Chan</i>	<i>Rong Kohtz</i>
<i>Mudita Chawla</i>	<i>Hon. Patricia E. LaFreniere</i>
<i>Cathy S. Chester</i>	<i>Sherry M. Narodick</i>
<i>Hon. Ellen M. Coin</i>	<i>Marilyn Neiman</i>
<i>Sara R. Cribbs</i>	<i>Fiona Oliphant</i>
<i>Teresa De Turris</i>	<i>Holly C. Peterson</i>
<i>Arlene G. Dubin</i>	<i>Marian Polovy</i>
<i>Bolanle A. Ekpe</i>	<i>Jennifer Pusey</i>
<i>Leslie Firtell</i>	<i>Gina Rebollar</i>
<i>Janet P. Ford</i>	<i>Serena W. Richardson</i>
<i>Theresa A. Foudy</i>	<i>Randi M. Rothberg</i>
<i>Jessica R. Friedman</i>	<i>Paula Schauwecker</i>
<i>Christina Giardino</i>	<i>Catherine Flores Silie</i>
<i>Claudia Gregoire</i>	<i>Vanessa J. Spears</i>
<i>Ellen Griffel</i>	<i>Stacy Turbowitz</i>
<i>Shprintzy Susan Gross</i>	<i>Ava Warmer</i>
<i>Ingrid Heide</i>	<i>Farrah S. Wax</i>
<i>Kristan Hildensperger</i>	<i>Jennifer L. Weiers</i>
<i>Laurie E. Holsey</i>	<i>Ewa M. Wolaniuk</i>
<i>Denise Rappaport Isaacs</i>	<i>Linda Ja Yi</i>

SUSTAINING MEMBERS

With their generous contributions, our 2004-05 sustaining members make it possible for us to accomplish so much more. We honor and thank them for their support:

Susan L. Bender
Laurie Berke-Weiss
Sheila L. Birnbaum
Elizabeth A. Bryson
Alan Christenfeld
Mary A. Donovan
Hon. Betty Weinberg Ellerin
Linda A. Fairstein
Myrna Felder
Daniel Finkelstein
Martha E. Gifford
Marcia C. Goldstein
Adria S. Hillman
Andrea Hyde
Loretta A. Ippolito
Robert M. Kaufman
Harold A. Mayerson
Laurie J. McPherson
Hon. Karen Greve Milton
Tania M. Pagan
Barbara P. Robinson
Karen B. Rosenthal
Carol A. Schrager
Laura M. Twomey
Heather Martínez Zona

NOTES ON MEMBERS

NYWBA congratulates **Lauren E. Aguiar** on her promotion to partnership at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP. Ms. Aguiar represents clients in complex litigation, both domestically and internationally. She dedicates time to pro bono matters, currently serving as chair of the President's Council of NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund and as a director of Legal Information for Families Today.

We would like to congratulate our esteemed member, the **Honorable Muriel S. Hubsher**, on her retirement as a Justice of the Supreme Court. Justice Hubsher and a legion of friends and colleagues celebrated her accomplishments at a gala event held in her honor at Tavern on the Green on September 28, 2004. Best wishes!

Birthday congratulations to two of our beloved members - our founder and past President, the **Honorable Florence Perlow Shientag**, and one of our earliest members, **Rebecca Rowland**. We wish them the very best in the upcoming year!

Congratulations to member **Brenda Pomerance**, who was a featured panelist on a CLE program entitled "Managing Your Firm & Clients: Practical & Ethical Advice To Develop Business." The program was held at the Association of the Bar of the City of New York on October 6, 2004. Ms. Pomerance, who specializes in the area of patent law, is Co-Chair of NYWBA's Committee to Advance the Status of Women and an active member of the Technology and the Internet for Lawyers Committee.

NYWBA member **Clare Hogenauer** was recently featured on a TV news program. An experienced criminal law attorney and long-standing opponent of the death penalty, Ms. Hogenauer was interviewed about a specific case in which the death penalty was at issue, and she provided an articulate and compelling argument in opposition.

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

EMPLOYMENT LITIGATION ASSOCIATE POSITION AVAILABLE

Melville, Long Island office of a major national labor and employment law firm seeks highly motivated associate with 3-4 years experience in employment law and related litigation. Candidate must possess strong verbal and written communications skills and have a superior academic record. Litigation experience and admission to practice in New York are required. Firm offers a comprehensive benefits package and salary commensurate with experience. Applicants only, please.

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For more info, call (631) 247-4608

NYWBA FOUNDATION FELLOW INTERNEED AT SANCTUARY FOR FAMILIES, CENTER FOR BATTERED WOMEN

By Marina Ivulgina

"Now I'm a believer" - these words from a song describe nearly perfectly my experiences at Sanctuary for Families, Center for Battered Women ("Sanctuary"). Finally, I know that it is possible to find the kind of internship environment that every law student hopes to find when she enters law school. I interned at Sanctuary for one year, thanks to a NYWBA Foundation grant, as well as a Fordham Domestic Violence Advocacy Fellowship.

Sanctuary is an organization that uses a multi-faceted approach to help women from diverse backgrounds with problems stemming from domestic violence and abuse. Sanctuary's primary purpose is to provide legal assistance to women in a variety of areas, such as Family Court proceedings, immigration, child custody and visitation, orders of protection, and divorce. The attorneys from Sanctuary work in Family Courts in all five boroughs, assisting women as their assigned counsel and acting as referral sources. In addition to legal assistance, Sanctuary provides a variety of social services such as counseling, support groups, child care, and permanent and temporary housing placements to women seeking help to escape abuse.

I was pleasantly surprised to find out that although Sanctuary is a vast organization with a wide variety of services and many departments, I was allowed direct involvement in every stage of some clients' cases. During my year at Sanctuary, I did everything from conducting intakes and interviews to collecting evidence, drafting court documents, attending trials, and even arguing in court and in front of social service agencies for my clients. For instance, I worked with one woman to file a self-petition with the Immigration Service, and I assisted her in obtaining childcare, cash benefits, Medicaid for her and her children, long-term shelter placement, a Social Security card, and Section 8 housing placement. This woman originally had been referred to Sanctuary for assistance with an order of protection, but she ultimately needed a wide range of services. Before coming to Sanctuary, she had been on the verge of returning to her abusive husband, who had starved, beaten, raped and threatened to kill her on numerous occasions. My client initially felt that she had to return to her abusive husband because she spoke little English, was afraid of being deported, and had overstayed her allotted time at a homeless shelter.

The highly supportive environment at Sanctuary allowed me to help women in desperate situations. The staff attorneys are expert and were willing to guide me through the nuances of the law, to answer my questions at any time of night or day, and to tirelessly edit draft upon draft of any document. I had unrestricted access to every person in the legal and social services departments, so I was able to consult a housing expert, a divorce attorney, or a counselor as soon as any problem arose. Whenever I felt overpowered by the many stories of horrific abuse, I could talk to my supervising attorney or even to the director of legal services. More significantly, assisting victims of domestic violence gave me the opportunity to do meaningful work and to directly observe its consequences. Instead of working exclusively with documents, I was given the opportunity to work with clients face to face, to hear about their progress in securing employment or enrolling in school to continue their education, to attend immigration status hearings with them, or to tell them the good

news about their divorce or child custody cases. In addition to doing meaningful work in a superb environment, I was also able to participate in the "Trafficking, Domestic Violence and Prostitution Conference," organized by Sanctuary in Winter 2004, and to meet many fascinating people who gave lectures and taught training seminars at Sanctuary.

Looking back on the past year, I am grateful to the New York Women's Bar Association Foundation for their support, and I feel exceptionally lucky to have been given the fellowship at Sanctuary. I can only hope that the tradition of sending students to intern at this great organization continues far into the future, until the day that no one needs the help of a place like Sanctuary.

Florence Perlow Shientag Award Doubled in Value and Presented to Jennifer Weiers

This has been a banner year for the Florence Perlow Shientag Award, which was created by the Hon. Florence Perlow Shientag and is awarded in an annual contest for the best constitutional law essay submitted by a law student. Judge Shientag generously doubled the award this year to \$10,000. Jennifer L. Weiers, a third-year law student at New York University School of Law (NYU) wrote the winning essay.

Judge Shientag presented the award to Ms. Weiers at the NYWBA Annual Dinner on May 26 at the Grand Hyatt. Ms. Weiers, NYWBA President Elizabeth A. Bryson, and Foundation board member and past NYWBA President Barbara Ryan all publicly thanked Judge Shientag, acknowledging her tremendous contributions to the Women's Bar as a founding member of the Association. Ms. Weiers charmed the crowd by donning a WBASNY cap. She also joined the Association that evening as a student member.

Ms. Weiers wrote an exceptional essay entitled, "Enforcing the Constitution within AEDPA's Limits: Issues Facing the U.S. Supreme Court in *Yarborough v. Alvarado*." The essay examined the way federal courts decide habeas corpus claims of state prisoners under the Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act of 1996.

The New York Women's Bar Association Foundation administers the essay contest. Ms. Ryan and fellow Foundation board member Marian Burnbaum coordinated the efforts of a group of essay readers from across the Association. The essay contest attracted entries of students from law schools throughout the metropolitan area, including NYU, Hofstra University School of Law, Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, Pace Law School, and Fordham University School of Law.

Congratulations to Ms. Weiers and many thanks to Judge Shientag!



Past President Barbara A. Ryan, Award Recipient Jennifer L. Weiers, and Hon. Florence Perlow Shientag, Founder, Past President and Award Sponsor (l-r)

WEB CITES

We are now in our second season of our "Web Cites" column. The next few columns will cover tort law. This month, we feature personal injury caused by automobile accidents.

For New York law on motor vehicles, including insurance, visit <http://assembly.state.ny.us>. Click on Bill Search & Legislative Information (on the left), then New York State Laws (on the right), then New York State Consolidated Laws, then Vehicle & Traffic, or Insurance.

For a wealth of information, including downloadable forms to obtain accident reports, visit the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles at <http://www.nydmv.state.ny.us>.

For ambulance reports, see <http://www.nyc.gov/fdny>. Click on FDNY Resources (on the left), then Fire Department Records. Use the drop-down boxes to download forms.

For accidents involving taxis and licensed limousines, visit the New York City Taxi & Limousine Commission, at <http://www.nyc.gov/html/tlc>.

You may want to obtain agency records through the New York Freedom of Information Law. The Department of State explains the law at <http://www.dos.state.ny.us/coog/foil.html>. For more details, see the New York Committee for Occupational Safety and Health (NYCOSH), at <http://www.nycosh.org/foil.html>.

Remember that you can use search-engines such as www.google.com, www.altavista.com, and www.webcrawler.com. You can also visit websites for legal professionals, such as <http://caselaw.lp.findlaw.com> and www.law.cornell.edu/topics.

Please send comments and suggested websites to techcolumn@nywba.org. We appreciate your contributions.

~ 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.

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NEW YORK WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION and ASSOCIATION OF THE BAR OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

are proud to present a

Free Seminar for solo and small firm practitioners, and those who are considering starting their own practices

Lessons Learned: Advice from the Trenches

*Panelists include Laurie Berke-Weiss
(NYWBA Past President)*

Wednesday, November 17, 12:30 to 2:00 p.m.
City Bar, 42 West 44th Street, Manhattan

This is part of a full day of programs under the umbrella of the
"Law Practice Management Symposium"

To register for the free seminar or any other
Symposium program, call 212-382-6662 (phone),
212-869-4451 (fax) or go to www.abcnyc.org

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR NYWBA MEMBERSHIP? DO YOU HAVE A FRIEND OR COLLEAGUE WHO WOULD ENJOY BEING AN NYWBA MEMBER?

Our annual membership drive is in full swing! As of September 30th, nearly half of our members from last year had already renewed, but if you are not one of them, ***we miss you!***

Renewal forms were mailed to members in August. If you can't find yours, or would like to help a friend or colleague join, just go to our website (www.nywba.org) and download a membership form. It's easy and fast -- you can even fax your membership and credit card information to our Executive Director. You can also tell us what Committees you would like to join, whether you want to be a mentor, whether your contact information has changed, etc.

(Don't remember if you renewed? Just send a note to info@nywba.org or call 212-360-7055.)

Members who have already renewed know *the Association is only as strong as our members*. For the rest of you, be sure your membership is current. ***Please join or renew today!***

We also invite all members and prospective members to our ***Annual Membership Reception*** on **Tuesday, November 9, 2004**, at Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom LLP, 4 Times Square. We will honor our Foundation Fellows and have a wonderful time!

ELIZABETH BRYSON INSTALLED AS WBASNY VICE-PRESIDENT AT NEW ORLEANS CONVENTION

Association President Elizabeth A. Bryson was installed as a vice president of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York at its annual convention in New Orleans, which occurred May 20-23, 2004. When asked about her new role, Beth reflected on the "honor of being selected as an officer of WBASNY" and expressed her desire to "continue to contribute to the advancement of women in the legal community on both a local and statewide level."

Beth's installation was a highlight of the trip for the fifteen NYWBA members who attended. Inspired by New Orleans' festive mood, the ladies wore red feather boas and Mardi Gras beads to Beth's installation ceremony to show their enthusiasm for her dynamic leadership. Beth, her mom, Natalie Bryson, and several NYWBA members, including the Hon. Betty Weinberg Ellerin, also shared a delicious New Orleans lunch to celebrate her installation. In the words of NYWBA Vice-President Christina Kallas, "We're proud to once again have a representative from our chapter serve as a statewide officer. I'm delighted that our representative is the inimitable Ms. Bryson."

The NYWBA women enjoyed other aspects of the convention as well. They explored New Orleans and took a riverboat jazz cruise. They attended receptions honoring the outgoing and incoming WBASNY presidents, earned CLE credits at convention programs, and networked with other members. The Annual Awards Dinner was another highlight of the convention, featuring U.S. Senator Mary L. Landrieu of Louisiana. She was a lively speaker and won the support of the crowd with her remarks.

Many of the events at the convention would not have been possible without the support of numerous firms and companies that provided various levels of sponsorship, from underwriting major events to providing items for the goody bags that every participant received. A list of these terrific sponsors is printed at the WBASNY website (www.wbasny.org).

The NYWBA also sent symbolic gifts to the Convention. Christina Kallas prepared a written and pictorial history of the NYWBA chapter for the convention journal. For the WBASNY auction, the Association sent a gift basket that included a poster signed by all cast members of the Broadway show, *Wonderful Town*, numerous items that symbolize Manhattan, and two signed New York tour books written by John Tauranac, who happens to be the husband of NYWBA Legislation Committee Chair and Board member Jane Bevans.

NYWBA attendees found the convention atmosphere to be upbeat. They were pleased to see Linda Chiaverini -- the Executive Director of WBASNY and a former professional dancer -- tap dance alongside a street performer, proving once again that WBASNY women have many talents.

The convention was a huge success, thanks to the hard work and creativity of the 2004 WBASNY Convention Committee. The committee's efforts have inspired the 2005 WBASNY Convention Committee to launch plans for a convention at the Otesaga Resort Hotel in Cooperstown next May to conclude our year-long celebration of WBASNY's 25th Anniversary.



NYWBA Celebrates, New Orleans Style!



NYWBA Past President Heather Martinez Zona and VP Christina Kallas (l-r)



Hon. Betty Weinberg Ellerin



NYWBA Board members Kay Marmorek, Christina Kallas, Jo Ann Douglas, and incoming WBASNY Vice President Elizabeth Bryson



NYWBA Members enjoy the Awards Dinner at Convention!



Barbara Ryan, Natalie Bryson, Elizabeth Bryson and Marian Burnbaum (l-r)



Jane Bevans, Kay Marmorek and Clare Hogenauer (l-r)



U.S. Senator Mary L. Landrieu, Special Guest Speaker



NYWBA Board members Kay Marmorek and Jane Bevans (seated) enjoy a moment with Hon. Betty Weinberg Eller, past President



Special Guest Speaker - Kathryn J. Rodgers, NYWBA member and President, Legal Momentum



2004-05 WBASNY Officers - Treasurer Risa Sugarman, President Mindy Zlotogura, President-elect Andrea Phoenix (seated, l-r), VP Elizabeth Bryson, VP Deborah Scalise, VP Maria Cortese, and Secretary Elaine Avery (standing, l-r)

Jo Ann Douglas, Susan Bender, Beth Bryson, Aimee Richter, and Lisa Sokoloff (l-r)



Annual Summer Intern Event

"WHAT IT'S (REALLY) LIKE TO PRACTICE LAW IN NYC AS A WOMAN"

By Lisa A. Bauer

On July 14, 2004, the New York Women's Bar Association ("NYWBA") co-sponsored the annual program, "What It's (Really) Like to Practice Law in NYC as a Woman," with the Committee on Sex and Law and the Committee on Law Student Perspectives of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York ("ABCNY"). The event has been organized by the NYWBA for the past eleven years. This year the committee organizing the event was chaired by NYWBA Board member Lisa A. Bauer and consisted of representatives from both the NYWBA and the ABCNY.

The event was extremely successful this year, as it has been in the past. Over 400 summer interns and law students attended. The attendees represented private firms, the judiciary, government, and public interest organizations. We received very positive feedback from the attendees at the event.

Opening remarks were given by Barbara Berger Opatowsky, Executive Director of the ABCNY and Elizabeth A. Bryson, President of the NYWBA. Students were encouraged to join bar associations and, indeed, several students have joined the NYWBA since the event.

A panel discussion was then held. The panel was moderated by Sheila Kearney Davidson, Senior Vice President and General Counsel of New York Life Insurance Company. Ms. Davidson is also a member of the company's Executive Management Committee, which is comprised of New York Life's senior executive leadership and directs the policies and procedures for the company. Ms. Davidson has been with New York Life since 1991. Prior to joining New York Life, Ms. Davidson was an attorney for the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc.

The panelists who participated were as follows: Sheila S. Boston, Margo Brodie, Betty Levinson, and Christa Stewart.

Shelia S. Boston is a partner in the Litigation Department of Kaye Scholer LLP, where she concentrates on class action and product liability issues. She also serves as the Chairperson of the Diversity Committee and as a member of the Recruitment Committee for her firm. She received the Network for Women's Services Associate Justice Award in 2000 for her legal representation of indigent women. She is currently serving as a member of the Committee on Recruitment and Retention of Lawyers for the ABCNY and will become chair of that committee in the fall.

Margo Brodie has been an Assistant United States Attorney since 1999. She is assigned to the Public Corruption Unit and was previously assigned to Narcotics and General Crimes units. Prior to becoming a federal prosecutor, she worked in the litigation department at Carter, Ledyard & Milburn LLP. She also worked as an Assistant Corporation Counsel of the City of New York.

Betty Levinson, a longstanding NYWBA member, has had a vibrant law practice for three decades, including counseling and litigation in divorce, custody, visitation, support, paternity, and adoption matters. Her work has broken new legal ground in

several areas, including the first New York case permitting second-parent adoption for lesbian and gay parents, the first New York case permitting a severely battered woman to sue her abuser for civil damages after the expiration of the statute of limitations, and the first New York case in which an expert witness was permitted to testify before a grand jury, thus avoiding a homicide indictment of a battered woman for the death of her abusive husband.

Christa Stewart is Director of Legal Services at The Door. She formerly co-founded the Anti-Trafficking Program for Safe Horizon (the nation's largest nonprofit victim assistance organization). Prior to developing the Anti-Trafficking Program, Ms. Stewart served as the Administrative Director for Safe Horizon's Sexual Assault and Child Advocacy division and provided fiscal and program management for Child Advocacy Centers in Brooklyn, Staten Island, and Queens, as well as the New York State Child Advocacy Resource and Consultation Center and Rape Crisis Programs. Ms. Stewart previously practiced immigration law and served as legislative staff attorney for the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund.

The panel covered a broad range of topics, including the following: (1) Career Plan: What is it? How important is it? The importance of flexibility; (2) Mentoring: What is it? How to find mentors and make the most of the mentoring relationship; (3) Networking: What is its purpose and how do you do it? Who is part of your network?; (4) Gender and the Legal Profession: Does discrimination still exist? How to deal with gender insensitivity; and (5) Balancing Acts: Professional life versus personal life, work and family, family leave and outside interests.

Following the panel discussion, interns and summer associates mingled with practicing attorneys from the NYWBA at a wine and cheese reception.

Many thanks to the following firms for helping to make this program possible:

- Baker & McKenzie •
- Cravath, Swaine and Moore LLP •
- Dewey Ballantine LLP •
- Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP •
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- Kasowitz, Benson, Torres & Friedman LLP •
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NYWBA President Publishes "Due Process" Article in the *New York Law Journal*

In honor of Law Day this year, President Elizabeth A. Bryson was invited by the New York Law Journal to write an article on what lawyers and judges can and should do to ensure an appropriate balance between civil liberties and security. The following article appeared in the New York Law Journal on April 30, 2004, which was before the revelations concerning conditions and procedures at Guantánamo and in Iraqi detention facilities came to light.

Lawyers Must Use Skills and Talents To Challenge Denial of Due Process

By Elizabeth A. Bryson

President, New York Women's Bar Association

As we contemplate the meaning of Law Day this year, our nation is at war. I grew up in a family dedicated to military service. My dad was in the U.S. Navy for 32 years, personally seeing action in World War II and Vietnam. Numerous uncles were in the Navy and Air Force - men who retired with honors. Even my mother-in-law was a nurse in the Navy. I was raised with a deep understanding of the importance of the mission of our military forces.

As a child of the 1960s and a young adult in the 1970s, however, I also got to know the risks to our essential liberties if efforts to ensure our security at home and our interests abroad are not balanced by a strict adherence to our constitutional principles of due process, access to justice, and equal treatment under law.

More recently, the challenges of ensuring that our country is safe struck very close to home. On 9/11, my husband was working in the World Trade Center. As a member of my firm's incident management team, I was in our command center watching the horror unfold, not knowing for hours that he had survived. The people who perished that day were from every walk of life, every ethnic group, and every socioeconomic class.

It is tempting to say we live in a new world, filled with risks that were not contemplated by past generations, but that is too simplistic a view. The horrors of the recent wave of terrorism echo in the events of Pearl Harbor and other atrocities. In reaction to Pearl Harbor and the subsequent events of World War II, the United States interned its own citizens in the name of security. More recently, we have prisoners at Guantánamo who have been denied representation or trial even as they are held without charges having been filed or other due process. Lawyers must use their talents and skills to challenge laws, regulations and other governmental actions that would deny access to counsel, to notice of charges, and an opportunity to be heard.

The New York Women's Bar Association, the New York Women's Bar Association Foundation, Inc. and the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York have each taken steps to help address this balance. Among other efforts, many of our members have taken on asylum cases and similar matters pro bono. The NYWBA Foundation has a Fellowship Program to place law students in settings where they can help clients who are seeking asylum or other assistance. The Women's Bar Association of the State of New York has established a Women and the Military Committee, and has been selected by the United Nations to be a qualified non-governmental organization (NGO) to provide education, programs and services addressing

these concerns. We have also presented or helped sponsor numerous programs that look at the issues of privacy, liberty and due process. Most recently, we co-sponsored a program presented by the New York County Lawyers' Association that pondered the question as to whether all custodial interrogations should be videotaped, to ensure a record of the proceedings. Certainly interrogations of persons suspected of terrorism raise many of the same concerns.

The critical issue is this. While it is essential that we ensure the country's security and its "domestic tranquility," we must do so without sacrificing the essential liberties that make the United States a nation worth fighting for.

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SAVE THE DATE! WBASNY 2005 CONVENTION *in Cooperstown*

The Otesaga Resort Hotel, Cooperstown, NY
See hotel photos and information at www.otesaga.com

May 13-15, 2005

Come celebrate WBASNY's 25th Anniversary!

Sponsorships by you and your colleagues (firms, companies, clients, vendors) are welcomed now. Please contact Elizabeth A. Bryson at 212-576-5738 or president@nywba.org with names of potential sponsors or vendors. NYWBA members always have a great time at convention. Please plan to join us!



COURTSIDE WITH THE NEW YORK LIBERTY

Jo Ann Douglas submitted the following report about NYWBA & WBASNY's recent celebration of WBASNY's 25th Anniversary:

WBASNY and the NYWBA scored big in a historic court event last month. On July 31, 2004, in honor of WBASNY's 25th anniversary and in celebration of Breast Health Awareness Night, we joined the New York Liberty at Radio City Music Hall for our first annual outing to a Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA) event. A group of 37 of our members instantly became devoted Liberty fans, as we watched our team take on the Connecticut Sun for the first time in the demure venue of the Radio City Music Hall.

With many WBASNY chapters across the state represented, we celebrated WBASNY's 25th Anniversary in great style. Mindy Zlotogura, WBASNY President; Beth Bryson, President of the New York Chapter and Vice President of WBASNY; Theresa Ciccotti, President of the Brooklyn Chapter; and members from New York, Staten Island, Suffolk County, Queens, and Nassau County all enjoyed the festivities. NYWBA past President Bonnie Edwards even won the raffle for the Liberty shirt autographed by Vicki Johnson (#55), who is the only remaining original 1997 WNBA Inaugural Year player still on our team. Way to go, Bonnie!

With our terrific seats in the front of the orchestra, we watched as the Liberty triumphed over the competition. In fact, the Liberty played on their actual Madison Square Garden floor, which was transported from its home and painstakingly assembled in the theatre. The Liberty took first place in the Eastern Division of the WNBA, a great position for the play-offs and finals.

Our group was spirited, enthusiastic, and incredibly loud. We cheered on guard Becky Hammon, who scored an astounding 24 points and was named to play in the WNBA vs. USA Olympic Team game on August 5, 2004. We were also amazed by the seemingly boundless 13 rebounds by Elena Baranova. Our Liberty came out for us in flying colors, beating the Sun by 14 points at the finish. The delight in watching the win, however, was paralleled in seeing the professionalism and camaraderie of "adversaries," a goal and feature of our own courtside performance.

The NYWBA has been developing a relationship with our professional sisters in the WNBA, which has generously been a sponsor of our Annual Dinner for two years now. We proudly contribute toward the Cheering for Children program sponsored by the Liberty, and we look forward to years of joining our two wonderful teams in events such as this.

~ Jo Ann



WBASNY Members love cheering on the Liberty!

WBASNY Officers Deb Scalise (VP) and Mindy Zlotogura (President) with the Liberty mascot during half-time.

All the kids had a great time!

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

Present

**Representing the Commercial Client
in Real Estate Transactions**

Tuesday, November 9, 2004

5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Berkeley College

99 Church Street, White Plains, NY

Speakers:

***Phyllis Knight Marcus, Esq. and
Hon. Andrew K. Brotmann***

CLE: 2 Hours of Professional Practice Credits*
Registration Fee -- \$20 Members
(Cost covers CLE and a light dinner)

RSVP: Jody Fay at 914-244-3738

***CLE:** Approval of CLE credit is pending in accordance with the requirements of the NYS Continuing Legal Education Board, including for transitional credit for established and newly admitted attorneys. NYWBA is a chapter 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 Jody Fay at 914-244-3738. All requests are confidential.

NEW YORK WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION
and
The Financial Planning Association of New York

present

ALLIED PROFESSIONS DINNER

A networking opportunity for attorneys and financial planners
~ Open to all NYWBA Members ~

Thursday, November 18, 2004

Arno's Restaurant, 141 West 38th Street, NYC

6 - 8 p.m., registration at 5:30 p.m.

\$49.50 per person (includes dinner)

Seating is limited, and advance registration is required.

Register online at www.fpany.org (select "Allied Professional Links" and use password "NYWBA")
For information, call Bruce Resnik at (212) 370-8733.

COMMITTEE CALENDAR

The **Technology and Internet for Lawyers Committee** will meet on **Monday, November 15, at 6:15 p.m.** at the offices of NYWBA President Elizabeth Bryson, New York Life, 44 East 27th Street (between Park and Madison Avenues), Room 3204. 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 **Matrimonial and Family Law Committee** will meet on **Thursday, November 18, at 6:15 p.m.** at Blank Rome LLP, 405 Lexington (at 42nd Street), 24th Floor. At this important meeting, the Committee will welcome members of the New York State Matrimonial Commission, which has been convened by Chief Judge Kaye to address and propose changes in many facets of divorce and custody proceedings. All NYWBA members are welcome, but an RSVP is required for the security list. Please RSVP to Jo Ann Douglas at K9Kastle@aol.com or 212-673-2895.

The **Trusts & Estates Committee** will meet on **Monday, December 6, 2004 at 6:00 p.m.** at Fulbright & Jaworski, 666 Fifth Avenue (entrance is on 52nd or 53rd Street), 31st floor. The speaker will be Jay Sangerman, Esq., and the topic is Supplemental Needs Trusts (SNT's). Refreshments will be provided. All members of the NYWBA are invited, but attendance must be confirmed in advance so that all names can be included on the security list. Please RSVP to Annette Piazza (Laura Ippolito's secretary) at apiazza@willkie.com or 212-718-8334.

NYWBA Foundation Breakfast Speaker Series

featuring

BETH HARPAZ

Journalist and Author of

*The Girls in the Van: A Reporter's Diary of the Campaign Trail
and Finding Annie Farrell: A Family Memoir*

Wednesday, December 1, 2004

The Harvard Club, 27 West 44th Street, Manhattan

\$75 (\$85 at the door)

To reserve your seat, call Tonya Gaetan at (212) 894-6806.

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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.

NEW YORK WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION

cordially invites you to attend the

New York Women's Agenda Star Breakfast

Tuesday, December 7, 2004, 7:30 to 9:00 a.m.
New York Hilton Hotel and Towers

NYWA consists of 100 women's organizations (including NYWBA), representing over 100,000 women. It sponsors many charitable programs.

For information about these programs or this important (and fun!) charity fundraising event, go to www.nywa.org or call 212-843-1706

Visit our website at www.nywba.org

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