# LAWYERS CLUB NEWS

# Diverse Women's Committee of Lawyers Club Presents Commissioner Edith Ramirez at March Luncheon

By Lizzette Herrera Castellanos

The Diverse Women's Committee of Lawyers Club, in collaboration with several diversity bar associations, invites you to attend the Lawyers Club monthly luncheon on March 21. Guest speaker Commissioner Edith Ramirez will unite bar members from all different organizations and discuss the importance of diversity and how it has played a role in her life, and how it can benefit the legal field in general.



Commissioner Ramirez was nominated by President Obama to serve on a five member commission that works against deceptive advertising and enforces adherence to antitrust law. Previously, Commissioner Ramirez was a partner at Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan, in Los Angeles, where she specialized in intellectual property and business litigation. While there she represented a diverse range of clients, including Mattel Inc., The Walt Disney Company, and Northrop Grumman Corp., in actions involving copyright and trademark infringement, antitrust and unfair competition claims, business tort, and other general business litigation cases. She graduated from Harvard-Radcliffe College and served as editor of Harvard Law Review.

Join Lawyers Club and learn about this extraordinary woman's path and the challenges she faced as a woman and a woman of color. This is also a great opportunity to learn more about the Diverse Women's Committee and our plans for the upcoming year. The Diverse Women's Committee of Lawyers Club works to identify and raise awareness regarding the particular challenges that women of color, as double minorities, continue to face in the legal profession. To register for this luncheon, please go to www. lawyersclubsandiego.com.

Lizzette Herrera Castellanos is Assistant Director of Public Service and Diversity at the University of San Diego School of Law.



Commissioner Edith Ramirez

What: March Luncheon When: Thursday, March 21, 12:00 – 1:15 p.m.

What? When? Where?

Where: The Bristol Hotel, 1055 First Avenue, downtown San Diego

**Cost:** Members, \$25; Non-members \$40; Students, \$20; at the door, if space allows \$40

**MCLE:** 1 hour credit available (elimination of bias) *Register at www.lawyersclubsandiego.com* 

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Sarah Boot

of the sixties caused women to question their invisibility in traditional American history texts." According women's history pioneer Carroll Smith-Rosenberg, "without question, our first inspiration was political. Aroused by the feminist charges of economic and political discrimination . . . we turned to our history to trace the origins of women's second class status."

There were few

scholars of women's

history prior to the

women's liberation

movement. In an In-

foplease.com article

titled, "The History

Borgna Brunner

reports that "[t]he

of Women's History,"

women's movement

Yet, by the 1970s, women's contributions to our country and to the fabric of our society were still absent from K-12 curriculum, and, thus, our public consciousness. This created a perception among many that women were not making contributions of historical significance, which could not be further from the truth.

Not surprisingly, the movement for American schools to teach a more comprehensive version of our history originated in California, the birthplace of much of our nation's progressive change. In 1978, the school district of Sonoma, California organized a weeklong celebration of women's contributions to culture, history, and society. They gave presentations at dozens of schools in the district, students participated in a "Real Woman" essay contest, and they held a parade. Dubbed, "Women's History Week," this celebration took place the week of March 8, which had been celebrated as International Women's Day since 1911. (International Women's Day also has political roots - it was created as a day for women to protest their oppression and inequality during the Industrial Revolution. It continues to be celebrated around the world and, in some countries, it is a day to honor women, similar to Mother's Day in the United States.)

Thanks to inspiration from that small California community, the concept of Women's History Week caught on in communities around the country. Just two years later, in 1980, President Jimmy Carter issued the first presidential proclamation declaring the week of March 8 to be Women's History Week. The next year, the U.S. Congress followed suit and passed a resolution establishing Women's History Week as a national celebration. In 1987, Congress expanded the event to the entire month of March.

Since it's inception, both the field of women's history and the celebration of Women's History Month have continued to evolve. According to

Brunner, "[a]s the field [of women's history] has grown, women's historians realized that their definition needed to expand as well – it focused primarily on the white, middle-class experience and neglected the full racial and socio-economic spectrum of women." For this reason, to ensure that the celebration of women's history included women of all ethnic backgrounds, the International Women of Color Day was created.

Lawyers Club is kicking off its celebration of Women's History Month with its first annual International Women of Color Day Reception on Friday, March 1 at the downtown law offices of Robbins Gellar Rudman & Dowd LLP. Twelve of our local, specialty bar associations, along with the San Diego County Bar Association, have joined as co-hosts of this event, which will feature Superior Court Commissioner Terrie Roberts. Commissioner Roberts has served the San Diego community for 19 years as a Deputy District Attorney, a Deputy Public Defender, a private, civil attorney, and now as a Commissioner.

"When I started working on women's history about thirty years ago, the field did not exist. People didn't think that women had a history worth knowing."

> - Gerda Lerner, creator of the nation's first women's history graduate program.

So why is Lawyers Club celebrating women's history month? Why does it even matter? It matters because ignoring the historical contributions of women in our classrooms reinforces gender inequities to both our girls and our boys at a young age. According to high school history teacher Nicholas Ferroni, in a Huffington Post article entitled, "Why Women's History Month is Not Enough," "[b]y limiting and even undermining the representation of women and their roles throughout history, male students are given the impression that women have played a very minimal role in history and, when they were present, functioned only in very female-oriented fields, such as seamstress (Betsy Ross) or nurse (Clara Barton)." Ferroni points out that still today. "[t] here are so many amazing and deserving women who have changed and influenced history, but are not even acknowledged or identified." Ferroni gives the example of the little-known Deborah Sampson, who rebelled against the British and society by dressing as a man and fighting in the Revolutionary War for eighteen months and was wounded in the process.

As for our girls, when women are left out of history lessons, it mutes their aspirations because, as Marian Wright Edelman wisely and succinctly stated, "You can't be what you can't see." According to Ferroni, "[g]irls can benefit so much in history class if they are given more female figures to whom they can relate; it will give them a sense of empowerment, and allow them to pursue various fields that they previously might have felt were untouchable merely because of their gender."

Despite the progress we have made including women in our history lessons due to Women's History Month, many argue it's not enough. Specifically, Ferroni, advocates eliminating Women's History Month completely, along with other minority heritage months, and better incorporating these groups into textbooks so that they can be taught throughout the year.

Until that day comes, we should use Women's History Month as a time to advocate for the inclusion of more women in our children's history classes and to take advantage of the many local, educational resources on this topic. Did you know that San Diego is home to the Women's Museum of California? This museum features a variety of changing exhibits and displays, sponsors lecture series, develops educational events, maintains a library, and provides speakers for the community. The museum's tag line is "preserving the past . . . inspiring the future." Lawyers Club's Networking Events Committee will be hosting a family-friendly group tour of the Women's Museum of California this year. Be on the lookout for this event as it will be an excellent opportunity to further educate your girls and your boys about the impact women have had on our society.

Another local treasure celebrating the contribution of women to our community is the San Diego County Women's Hall of Fame. Long-time Lawyers Club member and regular volunteer, Betty Boone, is being inducted into the Hall of Fame this year in the category of "Empowerer of Women." In addition to her many other contributions to Lawyers Club and to the San Diego community, she has collected and organized Lawyers Club's invaluable archives for years. A number of Lawyers Club's founders and prominent members have already been inducted into the Hall of Fame, including the Hon. Lynn Schenk, the Hon. Judith McConnell, and the Hon. Bonnie Dumanis. This year's Induction Ceremony will take place the evening of March 16 at UCSD. Come to this event and sit at the Lawyers Club tables to support Betty Boone and to learn about the other outstanding women being honored from our community.

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Lawyers Club News is published monthly 11 times a year, with a combined July/August issue.

Lawyers Club welcomes contributions to the newsletter, as well as your comments and suggestions regarding Lawyers Club News. Contact Michelle laleggio at michelle.ialeggio@sdcda.org with your ideas for articles.

The deadline for articles is the first day of the month prior to the month of publication. The advertising deadline is the eighth day of the month prior to the month of publication. Articles should be submitted in Microsoft Word. For advertising information, contact Elaine Lawrence at (619) 595-0650.



IN THE LAW AND SOCIETY SINCE 1972

# About Us - Lawyers Club members making news

San Diego Superior Court Judge Mau-

reen F. Hallahan, a Lawyers Club past

president, has been named 2013 San

Diego County Family Law Judge of the

Year by the Southern California chapter

Lawyers. Hallahan was honored for her

service as the supervising judge of the

San Diego County Superior Court Family

creative, collaborative and dedicated

Lawyers Club co-founder Lynn

Schenk was reappointed in December

to the board of the California High-Speed

Rail Authority. Schenk has served on the

board since 2003 and currently serves

from 1993 to 1995, she authored H.R.

as vice chair. While serving in Congress

4867, the High Speed Rail Development

Act of 1994, the first federal law authoriz-

Kevin Murphy, managing partner of

Murphy Jones LLP, recently was ap-

pointed to two boards of directors. He

County Bar Association's New Lawyer

of Consumer Attorneys of San Diego.

Division, and he will serve on the board

Karen Dow, a partner with the intel-

lectual property law firm Sughrue Mion

Connect's executive committee. Dow's

practice focuses on all phases of life sci-

ence patent matters and counseling, in-

cluding intellectual property transactions.

She has served on the Connect board of

Shannon Erickson and Lindsay

Puckett were promoted to partner at

Erickson represents clients in business

and general civil litigation matters, with a

focus on real property and title insurance

environmental and land use law, and she

transactional and litigation matters involv-

represents public and private clients in

issues. Puckett's practice focuses on

Best Best & Krieger LLP in January.

directors since the fall of 2010.

**New Partners** 

PLLC, has been elected to serve on

will serve as secretary of the San Diego

of the American Academy of Matrimonial

Lawyers Club News

By Jodi Cleesattle

#### Honored

Law Division.

Appointed

ing high speed rail.

Hon. Maureen

Hallahan



Lynn Schenk





#### Karen Dow



Shannon Erickson



Lindsay Puckett



Monty McIntyre



Natalie Prescott

ing the California Environmental Quality Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, state and federal endangered species laws, coastal development, alternative energy, water issues and American Indian law issues.

#### **More Top Young Attorneys**

Andrea Kaplan Russell was named as a finalist on the San Diego Daily Transcript's 2012 Top Young Attorneys list in the category of attorneys in practice for six to seven years. Russell, an attorney at Kirby Noonan Lance & Hoge LLP, was inadvertently left off the listing of Lawyers Club members who made the Top Young Attorneys list in our January 2013 issue.

#### On the Move

Monty McIntyre has opened his own firm to work as a mediator, arbitrator and discovery referee. McIntyre has offices at 501 West Broadway, Suite 1330, downtown, and can be found online at www.montymcintyre.com. He has successfully settled hundreds of cases, using his experience representing both plaintiffs and defendants. He also will handle select civil cases.

Lawyers Club board member and Vice President of Policy Section Natalie Prescott recently co-founded Cross Prescott APC, a boutique firm with a focus on civil litigation and personal injury. The firm can be found online at www.sdinjuryfirm.com. Prescott previously was a senior associate at Latham & Watkins LLP.

Jodi Cleesattle is a deputy attorney general with the California Department of Justice and Lawyers Club's Press Liaison.

Have you...

...changed jobs? ...spoken at a conference? ...won any recent awards?

Don't be shy about sharing your good news. Submit news of your or your colleagues' career accomplishments - awards, promotions, job changes, board appointments, published articles, presentations, etc. to Jodi Cleesattle at jcleesattle@gmail.com. The deadline for each issue of Lawyers Club News is the first of the month prior to that issue.

# Writing the Next Chapter: Join Lawyers Club in ensuring the success of the 41st Annual Dinner on May 16, 2013!

By Renee Galente and Deborah Dixon

The Annual Dinner is quickly approaching and the Annual Dinner Committee is confident that the Dinner will be an incredible experience you will not want to miss!

The 40th Anniversary Dinner recognized and honored those that founded Lawyers Club and whose hard work has made Lawyers Club thrive for 40 years. This year's Annual Dinner will celebrate the next generations, the next steps, the next leaders, the Next Chapter.

We have the power to create a future of infinite possibilities for women in the legal profession and the San Diego community. Help us ensure that we start off strong! Sponsorship is still available:

Sponsor Level	Amount	Event Recognition	Dinner Program	LC Newsletter	# Tickets
			Ad	Recognition	(Dinner &
				Ŭ	Drink Tickets)
					)
Gold	\$2,500	Dinner event signage,	½ page	$\checkmark$	10
Gold	<i>\$2,500</i>	0 0 1	72 page	Ŷ	10
		recognition in event			
		program			
Silver	\$1,500	Dinner event signage,	¼ page	$\checkmark$	5
		recognition in event			
		program			
		F8			
Bronze	\$750	Dinner event signage,	-	$\checkmark$	2
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a 1 /a 11					
Solo/Small	\$250	Dinner event signage,	-	$\checkmark$	1
Firm		recognition in event			
		program			
		1 0			

Please contact Renee Galente (Renee Galente@GandGTrialLawyers.com) if you are interested in sponsoring the event.

### We would be remiss if we did not also thank those who have stepped up and are standing beside us as we move forward.

#### Special thanks to:

- Hughes Marino, 2013 Platinum Sponsor
- Wingert Grebing Brubaker & Juskie, a Silver Sponsor
- Sullivan Hill Lewin Rez & Engle, a Silver Sponsor
- Blanchard, Krasner & French, a Silver Sponsor
- Gruenberg Law, a Silver Sponsor
- Mr. Thomas J. Lincoln, a Bronze Sponsor
- The Huver Law Firm, a Bronze Sponsor
- Olins Riviere Coastes and Bagula, a Bronze Sponsor
- Brown Law Group, a Bronze Sponsor
- Judicate West, a Bronze Sponsor
- Pope Berger & Williams, LLP, a Solo/Small Firm Sponsor
- Galente Ganci, APC, Raffle Prize Sponsor (iPad with accessories and Tiffany & Co. pen)
- Sughrue Mion, PLLC, Raffle Prize Sponsor (Christian Louboutin gift certificate)

The list of our supporters is ever-evolving and, given the newsletter submission deadline, not all sponsors may appear on this list. Please visit our Lawyers Club Facebook page for up-to-date information.

The Annual Dinner Committee thanks you for your support and your consideration. Whether or not you can sponsor the dinner, we hope that we will see you at the event as we celebrate the future of Lawyers Club. Save the Date: May 16, 2013, The U.S. Grant Hotel. Tickets available soon!

Renee Galente is an owner and trial lawyer at Galente Ganci, APC. Deborah Dixon is a Partner with Wingert Grebing Brubaker & Juskie. Both are Lawyers Club Board Members and Annual Dinner Co-Chairs

# Get in on the Pipeline to Leadership, a program on securing board seats

By AnneElise Goetz



Lawyers Club's Leadership Development Committee will sponsor "Pipeline to Leadership: Securing Spots on Boards and Commissions," a program for women and men interested in taking leadership roles locally and beyond, on March 14.

The program will feature a panel of representatives from various types of non-profit, corporate, government, and business-related boards. Panelists will discuss the logistics of getting appointed to boards and commissions, the various types of boards, what board service involves, and the value of serving on boards.

The program will kick off and end with a networking reception, sponsored by Paul Hastings. The event is set for 6 to 8 p.m. at Paul Hastings, 4747 Executive Drive, 14th Floor, in UTC, and will offer 1.0 hour of MCLE credit. Attendees will receive a directory providing information about 100-plus local boards and commissions, including website and contact information.

Run Women Run, a political action committee that seeks to inspire, identify, mentor and support qualified pro-choice San Diego women who run for office or seek appointed government positions, is cosponsoring the program.

For more information, contact Lawyers Club Leadership Development Committee chair AnneElise Goetz at goetza@higgslaw.com

# Need a job? Let Lawyers Club help.

By Assly Sayyar



The Lawyers Club annual "Interviewing Seminar" co-hosted by the Student Committee and the Mentorship Program will be held on Thursday, March 7, at 5:30 pm. This is a perfect opportunity for law school students and recent grads to brush up on interview-

ing skills and gain valuable experience with the interviewing process. In a challenging career field where first impressions are critical, the event allows participants to hone their interviewing skills.

The Interviewing Seminar is designed in a round-table format where local attorneys and judges will pose interview questions to small groups and then give students feedback on their answers, as well as provide general interviewing tips. The event is generously being held at Duane Morris, located at 750 B Street, Suite 2900 San Diego, CA 92101. After the interview portion of the event, there will be a small reception where attendees may also put their networking skills to the test or just make new connections in the San Diego legal community. Students can register online at www.lawyersclubsandiego.com and attorneys who are interested in participating can email Carla at csanderson@sdgllp.com. Lawyers Club Introduces its First Annual International Women of Color Day Reception



Come celebrate International Women of Color Day on March 1 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Graciously hosted at the offices of Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP, located at 655 West Broadway, Suite 1900, the reception will be co-hosted by the who's who of

#### San Diego's diverse organizations:

- the South Asian Bar Association of San Diego
- the San Diego La Raza Lawyers Association

the Earl. B. Gilliam Bar Association the State Bar of California Criminal Law Section

San Diego Chinese Attorneys Association

San Diego County Bar Association American Constitution Society-

San Diego Lawyer Chapter

Korean American Bar Association of San Diego Run Women Run Native American Lawyers Association Iranian American Bar Association Pan-Asian Lawyers Association Tom Homman Law Association Ahrens Law Office Filipino American Lawyers of San Diego.

Come hear special guest, San Diego Superior Court Commissioner Terrie Roberts, and join the legal community to celebrate the achievements of women of color from all over the world, particularly in our community.

# Get into the Swing of Things

### Learn to Golf with Lawyers Club



Have you missed out on golf outings with clients or coworkers because you do not know how to golf or are not confident in your golf skills?

Don't miss any more important professional events. Lawyers Club Networking Events and Golf Tournament Commit-

tees invite you to take four golf lessons for just \$75 for members and \$100 for non-members, including clubs! Lessons will take place March 7, April 4, May 9 and June 6 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at Riverwalk Golf Club, located at 1150 Fashion Valley Rd, San Diego, CA 92110.

After you finish up on the course you can treat yourself to an Arnold Palmer or John Daly at the Riverwalk bar. Refreshments will be hosted by DTI and Libra Financial after every lesson.

We cannot guarantee that you will become a pro golfer, but we can promise that after these four lessons you will have everything you need to know to go out on the golf course with confidence.

- 5

Assly Sayyar is an attorney at law and a Lawyers Club member-

# Lawyers Club Commemorates Equal Pay Day: April 9, 2013

By Abigail Gurney Stephenson

The Lawyers Club Professional Advancement and Equality and Action Committees are pleased to invite you to a conversation about the sizable and persistent gap between men's and women's wages on Equal Pay Day: April 9. The luncheon will also explore the significant and crippling impact of unequal pay upon women, their families, society, and our nation.

Originated by the National Committee on Pay Equity in 1996 as a public awareness event, Equal Pay Day represents the date in the current year through which women must work to make the same amount their male counterpart earned the previous year. According to the most recent U.S. Census Bureau data, on average, full-time workingwomen are paid 77 cents to every dollar paid to their male counterpart. While this earning ratio is a slight improvement from 2000 when women were paid only 66 cents to every dollar and the 1990 figure of 63 cents per dollar, this disparity continues and appears to be stagnating. The gap is even starker for women of color with African American women earning 64 cents and Latina women earning 56 cents for every dollar earned by a Caucasian man.

The pay inequity amounts to a significant monetary loss throughout a woman's work life. According to the WAGE Project, a woman who earns a degree in business, medicine, or law will make \$2 million less than her male counterpart over the course of her career. A college graduate will make \$1.2 million less and a high school graduate, \$700,000 less. The impact of such inequity on the quality of life for women and their families on a day-to-day basis is tangible. It translates into groceries, gasoline, rent, and health care costs. On a long-term basis it severely undermines a woman's ability to adequately plan for retirement.

This is particularly disconcerting given that 2013 marks the 50th year anniversary of the passage of the Equal Pay Act, which requires that men and women in the same workplace be given equal pay for equal work. In other words, it made wage discrimination based upon the employee's sex illegal nation wide.

The Paycheck Fairness Act, which was previously filibustered twice in the Senate, was recently reintroduced. If passed, it would bolster the 1963 Equal Pay Act, and generally require employers to prove that any pay disparity between male and female employees is due to a bona fide factor other than sex, such as education, training or experience, which is related to the job in question and required by business necessity. Significantly, it would also allow employees to share salary information with co-workers despite workplace rules prohibiting disclosure. The Paycheck Fairness Act, if passed, would follow in the wake of the Lilly Ledbetter Act, signed into law by President Obama in 2009. The Lilly Ledbetter Act expanded the statute of limitations to file a claim for pay inequity for specific acts of wage discrimination based upon gender. President Obama recognized in his 2012 Presidential Proclamation about Equal Pay Day, "[w]omen are breadwinners in a growing number of families, and women's earnings play an increasingly important role in families' incomes. For them, fair pay is even more than a basic right—it is an economic necessity."

President Obama further noted, "[e]qual pay will strengthen our families, grow our economy, and enable the best ideas and boldest innovations to flourish—regardless of the innovator's gender."

By Proclamation, President Obama "... call[ed] upon all Americans to recognize the full value of women's skills and their significant contributions to the labor force, acknowledge the injustice of wage discrimination, and join efforts to achieve equal pay."

> To raise awareness regarding pay inequity, an Equal Pay Day Events Subcommittee has been formed to advocate for change. In addition to the April 9th luncheon, the Subcommittee is planning an event to take place later this year that will focus on pay inequity in the legal industry. Shalini Kedia, Chair of the Professional

Advancement Committee, and Maggie Schroedter, Chair of the Equality and Action Committee, are Co-Chairs of the Subcommittee consisting of a diverse group of Lawyers Club members including, Kimberly Ahrens, Teresa Beck, Brigid Campo, Jesica De Limon, Shanly Hopkins, Rachel James, Jamie Duitz Quient, Danielle Moore, Cynthia Morgan, Lisa Munoz, Morgan Shekhter, Abigail Stephenson, Pamela Townsend, and Susan Swan.

Please join us on April 9 for a luncheon to commemorate Equal Pay Day. For more information and to register, please go to www.lawyersclubsandiego.com.

For further information and/or to join the Subcommittee please contact co-chairs Shalini K. Kedia, Chair of the Professional Advancement Committee, at shalini@kediamediation.com or Maggie E. Schroedter, Chair of the Equality and Action Committee at schroedterm@higgslaw.com.

Abigail Gurney Stephenson is an Associate at Blanchard, Krasner & French, a business law firm in La Jolla Village. She is an active member of the Lawyers Club Professional Advancement Committee and a member of the Equal Pay Day Events Subcommittee.



# Taking the Lawyers Club Mission Statewide!

#### By Renee Galente

Lawyers Club members join for a variety of reasons: great networking opportunities, CLEs, luncheons, community service opportunities, and frank discussion about important issues facing women in the law. Whatever the reason for joining, Lawyers Club offers quality programming that is substantive and diverse. And, in joining Lawyers Club, each member makes a stand to support the mission of advancing the status of women in the law and society.

Wendy Behan

What many of our members may not know is that Lawyers Club is an affiliate of the state organization California Women Lawyers ("CWL").

And where Lawyers Club focuses heavily on programming and networking for its members, CWL focuses the advancement of women's rights through vehicles such as amicus briefs which they prepare to join in cases relevant to CWL's core issues. CWL has a dynamic legislative program to enact social changes and to be a voice in the debates that shape standards for women's rights in the workplace and society. CWL also actively works to diversify the Bench through outreach to the Governor, advocating diversity to the California Senate and House judiciary committees, and hosting annual "So, You Want to Be A Judge?" seminars throughout the state of California.

CWL provides a very real opportunity to effectuate the changes for

which Lawyers Club stands. Lawyers Club members are encouraged to get involved in CWL committees, meet colleagues throughout the state and increase the strength of the voice of Lawyers Club.

Notably, Past President of Lawyers Club, Wendy Behan currently sits as First Vice President of CWL, and will be sworn in as President in 2014. This is a great time to get involved in the organization and to support San Diego leadership.

CWL offers free law student and new California Bar admittee membership (through the first year of practice). And while CWL's regular membership starts at \$150 per year, as a Lawyers Club member you can join for \$100.

Renee Galente is an owner and trial lawyer at Galente Ganci, APC. She is a Lawyers Club board member. Ms. Galente is California Women Lawyers Affiliate Governor

# Upcoming "First Tuesday" Work-Life Balance CLE Brown Bag in Downtown:

"The Art of Multi-Tasking: Developing Business While Maintaining a Balanced Life"

#### By: Shalini K. Kedia

Business development is essential to those attorneys who have their own law offices or work at a law firm with an eye towards partnership. For most, it is perhaps the most difficult, stressful, and even mysterious part of being an attorney, not to mention time-consuming. When adding family commitments into the mix, it seems even more daunting. Is building business while simultaneously juggling family commitments doable? Absolutely! It just takes a little creativity, drive, and, of course, multi-tasking. If business development is a key component to your professional advancement or livelihood, don't miss the next Lawyers Club Balance Committee's "First Tuesday" work-life balance CLE brown bag in lunch in Downtown.

The brown bag lunch (beverages provided) will take place at at Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton LLP, 501 West Broadway, Downtown San Diego. On Tuesday, April 2 from 12:00-1:15 PM our panel of accomplished attorneys with diverse practice areas in various professional settings will share their personal tips on how to develop business while maintaining family commitments. Our esteemed panelists will include, Kimberly A. Ahrens, Law Offices of Kimberly A. Ahrens, Elizabeth S. Balfour, Partner, Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton LLP; Stacie L. Patterson, Law Office of Stacie L. Patterson; Justine M. Phillips, Associate, McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP; and Natalie Prescott, Shareholder, Cross Prescott APC. Aaron W. Beard, J.D., Balance Committee member, and a Principal of Synergy Coaching Group will moderate the discussion.

Attendees will earn 1.0 hour MCLE credit. Seating is limited, and pre-registration via the Lawyers Club website is required. The event is free for Lawyers Club members and \$15 for non-members (credit card pre-pay or exact cash/check at the door). If you have any ques-

tions, please contact Balance Committee Co-chairs Tamera Weisser at tweisser@jonesday.com or Holly Amaya at hamaya@wisintl.com. We look forward to seeing you there!

Please save the date for the next "First Tuesday" lunch in Downtown on June 4 at 12:00 PM entitled, "Balance Under Crisis" to discuss strategies for finding balance while undergoing stressful situations, such as divorce, illness, death of

a loved one, assisting aging parents, raising special needs children, and more.

Shalini K. Kedia is an experienced civil litigator, is a member of the Balance Committee and Chair of the Professional Advancement Committee who has her own mediation practice, KEDIA MEDIATION.





Lawyers Club's Reproductive Rights and Women's Advocacy Committee co-chairs Rebecca Kanter and Amanda Allen, Sandra Fluke, president Sarah Boot and incoming president Johanna Schiavoni



Rebecca Kanter and Sarah Boot get ready to introduce Ms. Fluke



Planned Parenthood of the Pacific Southwest's General Counsel Tracy Skaddan

# "A Pro-Reproductive Justice Organization"

By Rebecca F. Zipp

Lawyers Club kicked off 2013 with a luncheon featuring keynote speaker and accidental darling of the pro-choice movement Sandra Fluke. (For those who have been living under a rock, Fluke was catapulted into the national spotlight in February 2012 when she was blocked from testifying before a congressional committee about whether insurance should have a contraception mandate.) A longtime activist with experience working on women's issues, Ms. Fluke addressed a crowded dining room at the Bristol Hotel on January 17. Attendees included past presidents of Lawyers Club, numerous judges, and several members of the Filner Administration, including Chief of Staff Vince Hall, who underwrote the event along with Millennium Settlements. Lawyers Club's Reproductive Rights and Women's Advocacy Committee, co-chaired by Rebecca Kanter and Amanda Allen, organized the event.



James Crosby and friends



Lea Fields-Bernard and Lorena Slomanson

Following introductory remarks by Lawyers Club President Sarah Boot and Planned Parenthood of the Pacific Southwest's General Counsel and Lawyers Clubs past president, Tracy Skaddan, Fluke addressed the audience just days after Planned Parenthood launched its "Not in Her Shoes" campaign. Designed to facilitate conversation about abortion, the campaign urges people to consider dropping their "pro-choice" and "pro-life" labels. While a majority of Americans support a woman's right to autonomy over her body, a sizable chunk of this majority declines to identify as pro-choice. Fluke encouraged the audience to rethink the traditional terminology surrounding abortion as a way to better engage with potential allies on abortion rights and related issues.

Acknowledging that some may be reluctant to relinquish the "pro-choice" label, Fluke presented an appealing alternative: "pro-reproductive justice." This label, she said, applies to a broader group of people who may share similar goals, such as birth control access, or allowing a woman and her doctor to make decisions about her pregnancy.

Fluke scored points at the non-partisan event for stressing the need to build bridges with those who may be ambivalent about issues like late-term abortions but who are staunch supporters of, say, access to birth control. She is hopeful that the new phraseology will gain ground and will help to bring men as well as women and men from different places across the political spectrum into the fold. Then, she says, we will have a stronger coalition and be better able to ensure that everybody's reproductive health and freedom are protected.

Rebecca F. Zipp is a deputy district attorney. She is a member of Lawyers Club's Reproductive Rights and Women's Advocacy Committee.



Sandra Fluke captivated the audience



Sandra Fluke met newsletter author Becky Zipp at a rally earlier this year

Photo Credit: Jane Engelman and Eric Ganci





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# IS THERE LIFE AFTER LAWYERING?

By Janice Ingold Lau

"Without a doubt!" respond members of the Bradley Bunch, a subset of Lawyers Club formed in June 2008. The group is named in honor of San Diego Superior Court Judge Madge Bradley (1904-2000), who was the first female judge in San Diego County and a longtime member and supporter of the goals of Lawyers Club.

Although the Bradley Bunch has been described as "more seniorlevel" Lawyers Club members who have been "longer in service" or "retired," there is nothing "old, dated or retiring" about members of this group! In addition to continuing to support Lawyers Club in its mission of advancing the status of women in the law and society in general by mentoring and contributing to the Lawyers Club's Fund for Justice and other charitable projects, members are active spending time with family and friends, pursuing creative, recreational and educational interests, traveling and volunteering at home and abroad.

The Bradley Bunch is a fun way to connect in an informal, confidential setting with individuals that share a mutual interest in the goals of Lawyers Club and offer support and friendship as members pursue "Life After Lawyering." The group meets bimonthly at various locations within the county.

Women and men who are Lawyers Club members no longer engaged in the full-time practice of law or administration of justice are welcome to join the Bradley Bunch. Contact the Lawyers Club Office at info@lawyersclubsandiego.com or call (619) 595-0650 for details.

Janice Ingold Lau is a retired Senior Deputy County Counsel and a member of Lawyers Club's Bradley Bunch.

# Women's Resource Fair



The San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program's 24th Annual Women's Resource Fair, co-sponsored by Lawyers Club, is almost upon us. To volunteer at the Fair on March 9, please visit http://www.wrfsandiego.

org/volunteers/. Monetary donations to offset the costs of putting on the Fair are always accepted and greatly appreciated. For more information, please email Amy Fitzpatrick at afitzpatrick@ sdvlp.org. The Fair provides crucial services to women and children, at no cost to the participants, thanks to the donations received and the help of volunteers.

### Betty Evans Boone to Be Inducted into the San Diego Women's Hall of Fame

By Johanna Schiavoni



Betty Evans Boone has long blazed her own path in life. As one of San Diego's early women attorneys, she created new pathways and mentored countless women lawyers to come after her. In recognition of her achievements and contributions to the San Diego community, Boone will be inducted into the San Diego Women's Hall of Fame at a ceremony on March 16, 2013, from 5:00-8:00 pm, at the Price Center East Ballroom at UC San Diego. Boone was nominated by Lawyers Club and will be recognized in the category of "Empowerer."



Jim and Betty Boone

Betty Boone

"I am humbled by joining this group," Boone says. "I think the women who have been inducted all had a passion, and the passion was also their vocation and their avocation. To be able to express yourself and have other people join you in it is wonderful."

"We are so proud that Betty will be inducted into the Women's Hall of Fame," says Sarah Boot, Lawyers Club's President. "Betty has been an integral part of the Lawyers Club family and its success over the years. We treasure her continued contributions, and we look forward to honoring her service."

When asked what it means to be an empowerer of women, Boone modestly says, "It means that in the history of the women's movement, I was older than some of the other people that came later. So, what we did in those days had some impact on what happened later. It was important that I went to law school."

In May of 1964, Boone became only the second woman ever to graduate with a law degree from the University of San Diego. Boone was a charter member of Lawyers Club at its founding in 1972, and has been an active and devoted member for forty-one years. But the story of Boone's desire to achieve started much earlier.

Born in the Roaring Twenties, Boone was just one year old when the stock market crash of October 1929 ushered in a worldwide Great Depression. She grew up in the officially segregated South, the only child of a white working class couple. Her parents were high school graduates but neither attended college. Boone's mother learned typing, shorthand, and bookkeeping in a business school and worked as a legal secretary until her marriage. Her father was a salesman.

With the Great Depression and its high levels of male unemployment in the 1930s, the traditional homemaker role for wives gave way, at least in the case of Boone's mother, to a return to work, first as a stenographer and later as a bookkeeper. Thus, Boone's childhood role model was that of a working mother.

Reflecting on what drove her to follow her dreams, Boone says: "back to what my mother taught me, and they say Benjamin Franklin wrote, 'you can do anything you set your mind to.' That's really what it's about. To be allowed to do anything you set your mind to. The freedom to think. And, the freedom to act. And, the freedom to be accepted for who you are. That's how I feel at 84. I am glad I've lived long enough to be able to get a glimmer of what my life was about."

Boone's first inkling of what was in store for her as a career was in May 1941 when she graduated from grammar school. Her classmates, noting how much she liked to debate both sides of a question, predicted she would one day become a lawyer. At the time, she had never met a lawyer.

Yet, after graduating from high school just after the close of World War II, Boone – choosing the road less travelled – went to college at night, working by day as a legal secretary. She earned a degree in Business Administration, becoming the first member of her family to hold a college degree.

Boone married her high school sweetheart, Jim Boone, in December 1950, and his service in the Air Force took them to England and Germany for five years. They settled in Fort Worth in 1956, but seeking a change of their home base, careers and life style, in 1959 headed for San Diego with their sons, Evan, 6, and Karsten, 3.

Within a month of arriving in San Diego, in August 1959, Boone enrolled in night law school at USD. She had actually gone to SDSU's campus to enroll in business classes, when she learned that USD had a law school. She called the dean, who told her that she had to move fast if she wanted to enroll – it was the last night for enrollment. Boone enrolled on the spot, before discussing it with her husband, and instead, Jim found her at home that night reading her contracts book. Boone says she never heard any objection from Jim: "He was always supportive. He never discouraged me – always wanted me to march to my own drummer."

USD's freshman law class had 79 students – 78 men and Boone. Over the next five years Boone was a wife, a mother, a legal secretary by day and a law student by night. In May 1964, Boone was USD's second female law graduate. (Mary Harvey graduated in May 1959.)

The San Diego Union newspaper took notice of the changing times, and on February 9, 1964, published an article in its Society Section entitled "Law Beckons 16 San Diego Area Women," featuring seven female law students at USD and nine at Cal Western. Boone was in her final year of law school at the time, and her husband Jim had joined her at USD law school two years behind her. Boone said to the Union that she started law school first and her husband "taught school until we could both afford to go." They were both night students, she working as a legal secretary by day and he at General Atomics. Boone enjoyed being in law school with her husband, because they could review the material together – they also both worked on the law review. Boone's sons were aged 10 and 7 at the time.

After graduating in May 1964, Boone began looking for a legal job. She was turned away from many positions simply because of her gender, but then interviewed for a position at Title Insurance & Trust Company. The company never had a woman lawyer in its San Diego

branch (or the entire company). Boone was unaware that the branch manager used only her initials during the hiring process, and hired her without telling the Los Angeles office that he hired a woman. This only came to light when Boone accompanied her manager to a meeting in LA. When they arrived, Boone entered the conference room. The other men thought Boone was a legal secretary, until her manager turned to her for answers on the legal questions being discussed. Nonetheless, Boone never missed a beat – at that meeting or in continuing to advance in her legal career.

After two years, Boone left the company and joined the County Counsel's office as a deputy. However, her road to that job had its twists and turns. Right out of law school, Boone applied for deputy positions with the County Counsel and the DA. Although she was in the final "pool" of the top three candidates for both positions, she was not selected for either. She had not intended to re-apply for those jobs, but in 1967, was encouraged to do so by several other USD alumni. The thought was that if more women were in the "pool" for public sector law jobs, then some of them would have to get hired. Boone says she "didn't want to be a token. I didn't want to be in the pool but never selected," but she was finally convinced to re-apply. And, she was hired in March of 1967 as the first woman deputy in the County Counsel's office. Artie Henderson was hired the week before at the City Attorney's office and shortly thereafter, Marge Stein was hired in the DAs office.

# The women lawyers in San Diego were gaining momentum.

For the next fourteen years, Boone continued to be promoted in the County Counsel's office, retiring in 1981 as the Chief Deputy County Counsel responsible for the Advisory Division.

"Betty is a true hero. She has been in the trenches fighting for all of us her entire career and we all are deeply in debt to her," says Justice Judith McConnell, Administrative Presiding Justice of the California Court of Appeal, Fourth Appellate District and Lawyers Club's first President (1972-1974).

Shortly after retiring, at age 52, Boone took over the position as editor of Lawyers Club's newsletter in July 1981. The following year, Boone ran for a seat on the board, which she won, in a class along with now District Attorney Bonnie Dumanis. She then served as Treasurer and Education Chair.

"Betty's infectious enthusiasm for Lawyers Club motivated everyone on the Board to participate fully in our activities," says Judge Marilyn Huff of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California, who served as Lawyers Club President while Boone was on the Board. "She was – and still is – an invaluable resource for leadership development and training."

Over the years, Boone has worked on countless committees, served as a mentor, spoken on panels about her life and career, and has been the prime resource for developing and maintaining Lawyers Club's historical archives. Boone received Lawyers Club's Belva Lockwood award in 1985, named for the first woman admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court. In 2010, Boone was given the Icon award, recognizing her "exceptional achievement furthering the advancement of women in law and society."

"There was no better way to recognize Betty's continuing devotion and contributions than to honor her as only the second recipient of the Icon award," says Joan Friedenberg, retired Executive Director of Lawyers Club.

"Hearing the stories about Betty at the 2010 annual dinner, I remember thinking to myself – what an amazing woman who has seen and done so much," says Johanna Schiavoni, Lawyers Club's President-Elect. "But what is truly inspiring is how much Betty went against the grain in such a matter of fact way. She went to college and law school at times when women were not routinely doing either. When she was kept out of a county bar meeting because she was not allowed to walk through a certain hallway in the University Club, she went outside and climbed the fire escape to enter the meeting room. Nothing was going to stop her then, or has stopped her since."

Expressing her love of history, and particularly of her role as Lawyers Club's volunteer archivist, Boone says, "I love the fact that most of the people that I knew and that became a part of me, are written up in the papers at the Lawyers Club." With a twinkle in her eye, Boone also says, "Lawyers Club's 40th Anniversary celebration was fun, but the 50th is going to be remarkable."

"There would be no historical archives for Lawyers Club but for Betty's hard work and determination – she is a powerhouse of commitment, ideals and historical context. It has been, and continues to be, my distinct honor and privilege to work with Betty on Lawyers Club's history," says George Brewster, Chief Deputy County Counsel responsible for the public liability division, who served two terms on Lawyers Club's board and worked closely with Boone on the 40th Anniversary history project. "Given her energy and good humor, I often refer to her as Lawyers Club's Betty White!"

"Betty is an invaluable resource for Lawyers Club, a tremendous asset, and a great treasure and friend," says Elaine Lawrence, Lawyers Club's Executive Director. "She painstakingly preserves Lawyers Club's history for future generations while bringing it vividly to life, with her own sage observations peppered throughout, in processing mountains of documents, photos and other archival materials."

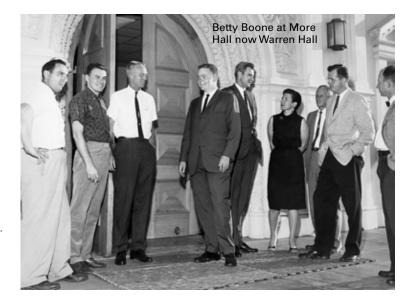
Boone has often remarked that the early women lawyers in San Diego did not know they were making history at the time. What is clear now is that the stories of Boone, Lawyers Club, and the other trailblazing women attorneys of San Diego are all intertwined.

Looking back, but always looking forward, Boone says: "There are many women who have brought us to this point in our history, the history of women, and yet we all owe something to the next generation to help them stand on our shoulders and have the vision of achieving whatever their interests and goals are."

Generations of women lawyers in San Diego owe a great debt of gratitude to Boone for her thoughtful leadership and fearless approach. To Boone, we say thank you and congratulations. We look forward to celebrating you on March 16.

Further information, details, and registration for the Women's Hall of Fame induction ceremony are available here: http://womensmuseumca. org/event/womens-hall-fame-induction-ceremony

Johanna S. Schiavoni is the President-Elect of Lawyers Club and an appellate litigation partner at Jacobs & Schlesinger LLP.



Lawyers Club hosts 29th annual Holiday Judges' Reception By Danielle Hickman

Lawyers Club marked the holiday season in East County with its 29th annual holiday Judges' Reception on December 3rd.

Held at the Ronald Regan Community Center in El Cajon, the event was well attended. Over 50 judges and lawyers, including the Hon. Katy Bacal, Hon. James Atkins, Hon. Robert Amador, Hon. Evan Kirvin, Hon. Patricia Garcia, and Commissioner Darlene White were present for the reception, which honors the Judiciary for its service to the community and continued support of Lawyers Club.

East County Chapter President and Foothills Bar Association President Carolyn Brock and Lawyers Club board members including Rupa Singh, Anna Romanskaya, Natalie Prescott, Marianne Barth, Patricia Hollenbeck, Johanna Schiavoni, and Renee Galente greeted the attendees. Sarah Boot, Lawyers Club President, opened the evening with welcoming remarks. The guests mingled while enjoying music and light d hors d'oeuvres.

Danielle Hickman is a deputy district attorney and past Lawyers Club board member.



Susan and George de la Flor



Eric Ganci, Sarah Boot and Renee Galente



Holiday Party Attendees



Elaine Lawrence and Danielle Hickman



Judge Eddie C. Sturgeon and Rupa Singh



Sarah Boot and Judge Katy Bacal

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# Lawyers Club News

MARCH 2013

# Recap of Lawyers Without Courtrooms'

### "The Affordable Care Act Explained

- What Individuals, Employees and Employers Need to Know"

By Martha Ann Knutson

On Wednesday, February 6th, the Lawyers Without Courtrooms Committee presented a program on the Affordable Care Act, featuring Professor Susan A. Channick, of California Western School of Law, and hosted by Mintz Levin Cohn Ferris Glovsky and Popeo PC.

The goal of the program was to provide an overview of the Affordable Care Act, commonly known as Obamacare. Professor Channick did just that and presented an engaging program geared towards all attorneys, but in particular in-house counsel, some of whose clients must comply with the Act's provisions or be faced with certain penalties. The presentation highlighted the "Pay or Play" options regarding health insurance for those employing more than 50 full-time employees, the possible effects of the Act on the affordability of coverage for different groups, and the operation of state health "exchanges," like California's "Covered California," where individuals and smaller employers will be able to purchase coverage beginning in October 2014.

Attendees came from all different backgrounds, with in-house, private firm, transactional, and litigation attorneys all present. In addition, there was a significant turnout of financial professionals, who saw this program as a great opportunity to bolster their understanding of the Affordable Care Act as it relates to their corporate and individual clients. As this is an evolving area of law, Professor Channick's presentation sparked a lively and interactive discussion almost from the start. The universal conclusion was that there is much to learn and much to observe, and only time will tell if "affordable" care will be the ultimate outcome.

For more information about Lawyers Without Courtrooms' upcoming events, or to get involved with the Committee, please contact cochairs Jennifer Chang at chang@sullivanhill.com and Kristin Witteveen at Kristin.Witteveen@accelrys.com.

Martha Ann Knutson is a health law practitioner in North County and a member of the Lawyers Without Courtrooms Committee and Bylaws and Policy Advisory Committee.

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#### Lawyers Club Member Abby Silverman Weiss Honored as Defender of Choice

#### By Rebecca Kanter & Rebecca Zipp

On January 24, the Lawyers Club joined the Coalition for Reproductive Choice, Planned Parenthood of the Pacific Southwest, Rosanne Holliday and over a dozen other individual and institutional sponsors for a 40th anniversary celebration of Roe v. Wade. Held at the Joe and Vi Jacobs Center, the "Then and Now"-themed event had a record turnout of approximately 400 men and women representing several generations. The event drew numerous local and state elected officials, including Congresswoman Susan Davis, Assemblyman Marty Block, Assemblywoman Toni Atkins, Assemblywoman Dr. Shirley Weber, Mayor Bob Filner, San Diego City Councilman Todd Gloria, and Chula Vista Councilwoman Pamela Bensoussan. The speakers addressed the many challenges, setbacks, and triumphs that the pro-choice, pro-reproductive justice community has encountered in the decades since Roe confirmed a women's constitutional right to control her reproductive decisions.

Assemblywoman Toni Atkins gave a powerful endorsement of AB154, a bill she introduced to allow nurse practitioners, midwives, and physician's assistants the ability to legally perform early abortions in California. She noted that there are currently no abortion service providers in over half of the counties in California, and this bill would expand access to services. Assemblywoman Atkins discussed her work at the Womancare Health Center in San Diego in the 1980's to highlight her personal commitment to this bill, and its relation to her early career. The bill, which is sponsored by the California Women's Health Coalition, builds on Senator Christine Kehoe's earlier efforts to legalize the same services; Senator Kehoe was forced to substantially pare back her version of the law after facing opposition, resulting in only a small pilot program at UCSF to experiment with the proposal.

Megan Ahn delivered the Champagne Toast along with an impassioned appeal for donations to the Make a Difference Fund, a non-profit organization that helps women access safe abortions. She observed that "access to reproductive health care ensures that women can make the right decisions for themselves and their families." A portion of the proceeds of the Roe Anniversary dinner, along with the proceeds of the raffle, went to the all-volunteer Make a Difference Fund.

CRC Chair Jenn Kish and Vice-Chair Rachel Dixon presented an indepth multi-media history of the local and national pro-choice movements. A few highlights included:

- a quote from Richard Nixon supporting accessible family planning services regardless of economic condition in passing Title X
- the development of the bubble laws to protect patients and medical professionals entering clinics, starting with a successful litigation by Lawyers Club members Abby Silverman Weiss and Jill Burkhardt in Planned Parenthood v. Wilson, 234 Cal. App. 3d 1662 (1991) through the March 1993 bubble ordinance adopted by the San Diego City Council, culminating in the FACE Act in 1994
- a video of Jennifer Coburn and Jennifer Dreyer going undercover at a fake pregnancy help center, in which Dreyer described that she "walked out disturbed and frightened – where would women go after an experience like that?" and the subsequent litigation – once again led by Silverman – suing the false pregnancy crisis advertisers in Roe v. San Diego Pregnancy Services
- statistics about the 40% drop in teen pregnancies after the introduction of family planning sex education in school

Following the reproductive choice history review, Dr. David Preskill presented the Defender of Choice award to Abby Silverman Weiss. Preskill told an amused audience that "great causes breed great leaders; some of them are lawyers" and described Silverman Weiss as "our Thurgood Marshall."

Silverman Weiss began her acceptance speech by crediting other friends and colleagues, including Burkhardt and Cynthia LNU, for their role in the successful pro-choice litigation. Silverman talked about her early days in the pro-choice movement as an "adult educator" for Planned Parenthood, and thanked the audience for giving her a sense of satisfaction, community and empowerment. She credited women like Davis who fight for equality for women, for example fighting for abortions for women in the military, and the younger generation, including Sandra Fluke, who Silverman Weiss heard speak at the Lawyers Club luncheon. Silverman Weiss concluded her remarks with a call to action by identifying specific action items everyone could do: (1) visit the websites of the CRC member/sponsor organizations and support them, (2) be alert to coming health care issues, including funding for Title X, and (3) pay attention to elections, particularly local elections like school elections and judicial elections, and (4) have a succession plan to educate and motivate the next generation. What will be the result of all this effort? Gaining the "security and satisfaction of protecting the rights of women, including the right of a woman to decide to end a pregnancy."

For more information or to become involved with the Reproductive Rights and Women's Advocacy Committee, contact Co-Chairs Rebecca Kanter (rkanter@gmail.com) or Amanda Allen (amandaaallen@gmail.com).

Rebecca Kanter is a prosecutor and the co-chair of the Lawyers Club's Reproductive Rights and Women's Advocacy Committee. Rebecca Zipp is a Deputy District Attorney and a member of the Lawyers Club's Reproductive Rights and Women's Advocacy Committee.



# Legislative Updates from the Reproductive Rights and Women's Advocacy Committee

By: Rebecca Kanter, Co-Chair, RRWAC

- January 2, 2013 President Obama signed the National Defense Authorization Act with the Shaheen Amendment; the Shaheen Amendment, proposed by Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH) repealed a generations long ban on insurance coverage for abortions for armed service members who are victims of rape or incest
- January 3, 2013 Rep. Paul Brown (R-GA) introduced the Sanctity of Human Life Act (H.R. 23), which would define life as beginning at fertilization and ban abortion with no exceptions, block access to forms of birth control, and outlaw medical treatments such as in vitro fertilization or the treatment of pregnant women with cancer
- January 4, 2013 Congresswomen Marsha Blackburn (R-TN) and Diane Black (R-TN) each introduced bills both titled the Title X

exceptional service

Abortion Provider Rehabilitation Act (H.R. 61 and H.R. 217, respectively) that would stop the Department of Health and Human Services from providing federal family planning assistance under Title X unless a provider, such as Planned Parenthood, certifies that it won't provide or refer patients for abortions

 April 1, 2013 – Senate Bill 1538, introduced in 2012 by then-State Senator Joe Smitian, goes into effect, requiring notice to women who have mammograms to notify them of dense breast tissue, which can make it harder to evaluate the results of mammograms and may be associated with increased risk of breast cancer

Rebecca Kanter is an Assistant U.S. attorney and is co-chair of Lawyers Club's Reproductive Rights and Women's Advocacy Committee.



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# Member Profile: Deborah Dixon

By Genevieve A. Suzuki



Deborah Dixon

**Employment:** Deborah Dixon practices civil litigation with an emphasis on defense of legal malpractice claims, business litigation and employment law. In January, Wingert Grebing named her its newest partner.

**Education:** Dixon has a bachelor's degree in Law and Society from the University of California at Santa Barbara. She earned her J.D. at California Western School of Law.

Hometown: Pleasanton, Calif.

Years lived in San Diego: Dixon has lived in San Diego for eight years. She moved in August 2004 to attend law school in America's Finest City. "I stayed because of the great people and weather, and to work at Wingert Grebing Brubaker & Juskie," she said.

Why she went to law school: Dixon took a Constitutional Law class in college and was fascinated by the law and how it affected everyday life and society. "Also, my mom pretty much told me I argued too much and that I should be a lawyer," she admits.

Why she belongs to Lawyers Club: "In law school I joined Lawyers Club because it seemed like a perfect fit – it combined my passion for equality and I enjoyed all the events. I have remained active in Lawyers Club since law school and am so glad I joined!" said Dixon, who also served a year as president of the California Western Women's Law Caucus, and serves on the Lawyers Club Board of Directors.

**On maintaining a work/life balance:** "I am not sure I do!" she said. "I am still learning, but I try to have a rule: If one of my sisters – I have four – or my mom calls, I pick up, regardless of how busy I am and what I am doing."

San Diego lawyer or judge she admires most: Dixon said there are so many that come to mind she would have a hard time listing them all.

**Non-law interests:** Dixon and her husband love to go to the dog park and hike with their dog. They also foster dogs through Second Chance Rescue so they normally spend any "free time" hiking with their dog and a foster dog.

**Other memberships:** She is on the board of San Diego Defense Lawyers. Dixon also serves on the California Western School of Law Alumni Board and is a barrister in the American Inns of Court, Louis M. Welsh Chapter.

### Welcome New Lawyers Club Members

Ms. Tara Almazan Mr. Samir Atta Mr. Ryan Baauman Ms. Amanda Betsch Ms. Jessica Blas Ms. Kathryn Bleazard Ms. Tanisha Bostick Ms. Alana Braunstein Mr. Robert Brewer Ms. Shelly Caterino Ms. Crystal Culhane Ms. Chelsea Grover Ms. Latrice Hemphill Ms. Katie Jenkins Ms. Charlotte Kaiser Mr. Cory Lacy Ms. Shannon Laoye Ms. Kristin Lapoff Ms. Jennifer Litwak Mr. Peter Mazza Ms. Katherine McGrath Ms. Julie Muyco Ms. Nicole Naghi Ms. Carree Nahama Ms. Jennifer Nelson Ms. Andrea Nichols Ms. Alison Norris Ms. Kiren Rockenstein Ms. Lauren Ross Ms. Claudine Ruiz Ms. Susan Sakhai Ms. Melissa San Angelo Ms. Kiri Semerdjian Ms. Tara Shaw Ms. Tory Smith Ms. Heather Speers Ms. Cassandra Sutliff Ms. Pamela Townsend Ms. Jan Westfall Ms. Emily Wietzel Ms. Leah Williams

# Balance Brainstorm Retirement Dreams

#### By Ashley Wedding

All good things must come to an end, and all lawyers will retire from the practice of law at some point. Some may retire sooner; others may practice as long as they are still breathing. This month, Balance brainstorm asked –

### Are you ready for retirement? If so, what do you plan on doing with all of the extra time on your hands?

#### **Already Ready**

18 months since graduating law school, and 7 months into running a practice, I am ABSOLUTELY ready for retirement. When I hear from veteran attorneys nearing retirement age, many say they would be too bored if they retired on time. Some attorneys I know who have actually "retired" have already found themselves second careers as ...different attorneys, mostly, or they do pro-bono work in the same practice area. And then how many attorneys describe being in a state of "semi-retirement?" So many. All this tells me that retirement is being wasted on the people who have actually earned it through dedication and passion for justice. I have not earned retirement through decades of hard work and contribution to society, but I think I have earned it through wanting it really bad. So, if you are approaching retirement, and you'd like to work out some sort of trade whereby I get your hard-earned free time and you continue working, give me a call.

Jennifer Day The Law Offices of Jennifer Day

#### **Retirement advice from the Weary**

In April, 2013 I will celebrate my 68th year on the planet, and my 43rd year as legal road warrior. My thought about slowing down has become a necessity, not so much for the toll of emotional stress, or lack of clarity, but the physical toll of being a member of the California, Florida and Hawaii Bars, and numerous federal bars.

The retirement process began in the week of September, 2011. At that time, I rented a large apartment in Tijuana, Mexico and began writing a book titled, MY TJ, a positive account of my vision of this safe, clean and cultural city. Semi-retirement needs other activities to fill a life of stimulation and action that addicts the brain of litigators. Besides writing, I am planning on producing a clothing line for the title of the book when that is branded. I also will continue playing golf, surfing and I highly recommend yoga practice for the mind, body and soul. Cooking classes is a form of meditation that can also keep me involved in the legal community by hosting events. I also find myself spending more time attending to the trees, plants and flowers in my residence in Tijuana, Mexico, and certainly my cats and bird feel more love and attention.

Being part of the legal community without the stress of practice is also critical to any retirement plans. I created and chair the University of Miami School of Law Alumni Golf Tournament, and assist with the Lawyers Club golf tournament. I also mentor law students and young lawyers, vicariously practicing, making lasting

Richard Hamar is a proud member of The Lawyers Club. He mentors law students and young lawyers within his areas of practice: commercial litigation; criminal litigation; appellate law; and pro bono transactional work for Tibetan Lamas and the yoga community.

# Balance Brainstorm Question of the Month

This year Lawyers Club will celebrate 41 years of working to advance the status of women in the legal field and in society. In honor of this anniversary, Balance Brainstorm wants to know:

#### How has Lawyers Club helped you advance your career?

Responses will be included in the April issue of Lawyers Club News. Please send your response, along with your full name, job title and employer name, to Ashley Wedding, ashley.wedding@hotmail.com. Answers may be edited for space. Members are also invited to submit questions relating to balance issues that they would like answered by other Lawyers Club members.

# *Leadership Opportunities* Boards and Commissions

By Samantha M. Everett

The Lawyers Club Leadership Development Committee encourages Lawyers Club members to apply for positions on the many city, county and non-profit boards and commissions serving San Diego County. The committee advises members to contact the individuals listed to confirm any openings prior to applying, as some openings may have been filled. If you have information about committee openings or leadership positions that may be of interest to Lawyers Club members, please contact Samantha Everett at samantha@montagelegal.com.

The San Diego Commission on the Status of Women has open seats for electors of each District in the County. The Commission's mission is to take action to identify needs and problems of women in the County that are affected by public policy decisions and to eliminate the practice of discrimination and prejudice on the basis of sex within the County. The Commission studies and evaluates County Charter provisions, ordinances, policies and proposed policies, and their implementation to determine if there are instances of discrimination against any person because of sex; cooperates with Federal, State, County, City and other public agencies; and studies and advises the San Diego County Board of Supervisors on areas of concern to women's lives and needs in San Diego County, including domestic violence, sexual harassment, legislative issues, elder care and fraud, welfare and social services, criminal justice, employment and business opportunities, and the Sexual Assault and Response Team (SART) program. Members are nominated by their District's representative on the Board of Supervisors and confirmed by Board of Supervisors. The Commission meets monthly, and members serve a term concurrent with their nominating Supervisor. For more information contact Lisa McAvoy at 858-505-6548 or visit the website at www.statusofwomensd.org.

The Child Abuse Prevention Coordinating Council of San Diego County still has an open seat for an electors of District Three. Applicants must be former recipient of services for children and families, representative of a nonprofit, community, or voluntary agency, or an expert in children and family issues. Among its many duties, the Council serves as an informational resource to the Board of Supervisors, provides a forum for interagency cooperation and coordination in the prevention, detection treatment and legal processing of child abuse cases, promotes public awareness of the abuse and neglect of children and the resources available for intervention and treatment, encourages and facilitates training of professionals in the detection, treatment and prevention of child abuse and neglect, and recommends improvements in services to families and victims who are in the public charge, as well as children, youth and families whose safety and welfare may be at risk. Members are nominated by their District Supervisor to a term of up to four years, concurrent with that of their nominating Supervisor. For more information contact Stephanie Lawson, Health & Human Services, at 858-616-5979.

The County's Mental Health Board continues to have open seats for electors of Districts One, Two, and Three. Among other duties, the Board reviews and evaluates the community's mental health needs, services, facilities, and special problems; advises the Board of Supervisors and the County's mental health director as to any aspect of the local mental health program; and submits an annual report to the Board of Supervisors on the needs and performance of the county's mental health system. Members are appointed by the Board of Supervisors and serve three-year terms. For more information contact Marianne Wedemeyer, Mental Health Services, at 619-563-2737

The Committee for Persons with Disabilities currently has openings for residents of each County District. This Committee studies and evaluates County Charter provisions, Ordinances, policies and proposed policies, to determine their implication for persons with disabilities, studies areas of concern as they pertain to the lives and needs of persons with disabilities, including coordination of client support systems, health, education, employment, housing, and legal matters, prepares and disseminates information of matters related to discrimination and prejudice, formulate programs and legislation to promote and insure independence, equal rights and opportunities for all persons with disabilities, and acts as liaison to County or citizen groups interested in the problems facing persons with disabilities. Members are appointed by their respective District Supervisor to a term concurrent with that Supervisor. For more information contact Susan Eldridge, DHR- Risk Management at 619-578-5787.

The County of San Diego's Community Action Partnership Administering Board has seats available to electors of Districts Two, Three, and Four. The Board establishes processes for planning, allocation, and public hearings relating to the use of community action funds; reviews policies relating to the programs of the Community Action Partnership, and recommends policies to the Board of Supervisors; supervises the administration of all funding source policies and standards; participates in the development and implementation of all programs and projects designed to serve economically disadvantage or low-income areas to assure maximum participation of residents; and provides a forum for the economically disadvantaged and concerned residents to secure broad community involvement in the programs. For more information contact Maria Sanders, Health & Human Services, at 619-338-2865.

**The County** continues to need attorneys to serve as Hearing Officers. An applicant for this compensated position must be an attorney at law admitted to practice before the courts of the State of California for at least five years prior to the appointment. A hearing officer conducts hearings, issues subpoenas, receives evidence, administers oaths, and rules on the admissibility of evidence and upon questions of law. Officers issue written decisions for submission to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors. Officers are nominated by their Supervisor and become part of a pool of Hearing Officers, serving terms concurrent to that of their nominating Supervisor. For more information contact Marvice Mazyck, Clerk of the Board of Supervisor, at (619) 531-4870.

Samantha M. Everett is a freelance attorney affiliated with Montage Legal Group (www.montagelegal.com) and a member of the Lawyers Club Leadership Development Committee.

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# Lawyers Club Calendar of Events

mation for your calendar. All dates subject to change. For latest information, contact Lawyers Club at (619) 595-0650 or visit our website at www.lawversclubsandiego.com.

# March 2013

#### Friday, 3/1/13

# Lawyers Club's First Annual International Women of Color Day Celebration

5:30 to 7:30 pm at Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd, LLP, 655 West Broadway, Suite 1900, San Diego

#### Saturday, 3/9/13

#### San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program 23rd Annual Women's Resource Fair

Co-sponsored by Lawyers Club. 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., San Diego Civic Center, 220 C Street, San Diego, CA 92101 The Women's Resource Fair provides women, children and teens with medical, legal and social services from more than 100 organizations and each woman received a donated gift-bag of toiletries. For more information or to donate or volunteer go to www.sdvlp.org/events/wrfsandiego/.

#### Thursday, 3/14/13

#### Lawyers Club's Leadership Development Committee's Pipeline to Leadership Event

Paul Hastings, 4747 Executive Drive, 14th Floor, San Diego, 92121. 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

"Pipeline to Leadership: Securing Spots on Boards & Commissions" Program will feature a panel of representatives discussing the many opportunities to serve on boards and commissions, the application process, the benefits of serving on boards, and what board service involves, and more. 1 Hour MCLE credit available. Co-sponsored by Run Women Run. Lawyers Club & Run Women Run members, \$10; Non-members, \$15. Register online at www.lawyersclubsandiego.com.

#### Friday, 3/15/13

**Spring Read-In** at Central Elementary Central Elementary School, 4063 Polk Avenue, San Diego, 92105 11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.

The Spring Read-In is a fun, high-energy long lunch – and at this age (pre-kindergarten through 5th grade) the kids tend to be warm, welcoming and very excited to have us there. This is your chance to reach out directly to very underprivileged children and make a difference. Contact Michele Macosky at macosky@san.rr.com to volunteer.

#### Thursday, 3/21/13

#### Lawyers Club Monthly Luncheon

12:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m., The Bristol Hotel, 1055 First Avenue, San Diego, CA 92101 Lawyers Club's Diverse Women's Committee luncheon featuring guest speaker Federal Trade Commissioner Edith Ramirez. Members, \$25; Non-members, \$40, Students, \$20; At the door if space is available, \$40. 1.0 hour MCLE credit available (elimination of bias). Register online at www. lawyersclubsandiego.com.

# April 2013

#### Tuesday, 4/2/13

#### Lawyers Club Balance Committee's First Tuesday Balance Lunch Meeting - Carmel Valley - Location to be determined.

12:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.

Balance Under Crisis Join us to discuss strategies for finding balance while undergoing stressful situations, such as divorce, death or illness of a loved one, assisting aging parents, raising special needs children, and the like. 1.0 hr. MCLE credit offered. Brown bag lunch meeting; beverages provided. Lawyers Club members FREE; non-members, \$15 (credit card pre-payment online or exact cash or check at the door). Pre-registration is essential. Register online at www.lawyersclubsandiego.com.

#### Tuesday, 4/2/13

Lawyers Club Balance Committee's First Tuesday Balance Lunch Meeting - Downtown - Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton LLP, 501 West Broadway, Downtown San Diego 12:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m. The Art of Multi-Tasking: Developing Business While Maintaining a Balanced Life. Join us to learn how busy lawyers can network and develop business while simultaneously juggling the profession and family commitments. 1.0 hr. MCLE credit offered. Brown bag lunch meeting; beverages provided. Lawyers Club members FREE; non-members, \$15 (credit card pre-payment online or exact cash or check at the door). Pre-registration is essential. Register online at www.lawyersclubsandiego.com.

#### Tuesday, 4/9/13

#### Equal Pay Day Leadership Luncheon -Downtown - Location TBD

12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Closing the gap on gender pay inequality. Equal Pay Day falls on April 9th, representing the date in the current year through which women must work to match what men earned in the previous year. Join us for a luncheon to discuss the ongoing issue of gender wage disparity. Guest speakers and additional details to be announced.

#### Thursday, 4/11/13

#### SDCBA's Ethnic Relations & Diversity Committee's Spring Mixer

Hosted by Higgs, Fletcher & Mack LLP. co-sponsored by Lawyers Club. 5:30 to 7:30 pm, more details to be announced.

# May 2013

#### Friday, 5/10/13

California Women Lead 16th Annual Networking Luncheon San Diego Details to be announced.

#### Thursday, 5/16/13

Save the date! Lawyers Club Annual Dinner at THE US GRANT, 326 Broadway, San Diego 92101. Registration will open soon.

# June 2013

#### Tuesday, 6/4/13

Lawyers Club Balance Committee's First Tuesday Balance Lunch Meeting - Carmel Valley - Location to be determined.

12:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.

How to Ask For What You Want: Approaches to Striking Better Work-Life Balance Join us to learn about strategies to help confront supervisors and employers, challenge firm and organizational culture, introduce and sell new policies, and explore alternatives to the 40-hour in-office week. 1.0 hr. MCLE credit offered. Brown bag lunch meeting; beverages provided. Lawyers Club members FREE; non-members, \$15 (credit card pre-payment online or exact cash or check at the door). Pre-registration is essential.

#### Tuesday, 6/4/13

#### Lawyers Club Balance Committee's First Tuesday Balance Lunch Meeting - Downtown - Location to be determined.

12:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.

Balance Under Crisis Join us to discuss strategies for finding balance while undergoing stressful situations, such as divorce, death or illness of a loved one, assisting aging parents, raising special needs children, and the like. 1.0 hr. MCLE credit offered. Brown bag lunch meeting; beverages provided. Lawyers Club members FREE; non-members, \$15 (credit card pre-payment online or exact cash or check at the door). Pre-registration is essential.

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- Top Attorney, San Diego Daily Transcript, 2007-2012
- San Diego Super Lawyers, 2008-2012
- "Transcript Ten," San Diego Daily Transcript, 2009
- AV Rated (highest rating), Martindale-Hubbell

Practice Areas:

- Dissolution of Marriage
- Legal Separation
- Domestic Partnership Issues 
  Paternity
- Child Custody/Visitation
- Child and Spousal Support
- Property Division

#### Professional Background:

- Family Law Practice since 1998
- Certified Family Law Specialist since 2002
- Founding Partner of ABC&K in 2000
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