



September 2013

Bexar County Women's Bar Association

President's Column

What a busy summer it has been! From the Bexar County Women's Bar Night at the Community Justice Clinic - Rio Grande Legal Aid to the Passport to Paradise Autumn Affair Kick-Off party to the lunches and events in between, it has been a great time for all.

Thanks to Gaylia Brunson and Maurleen Cobb for coordinating the Community Justice Program event where our members agreed to "Just Take One" family law or other legal case on a pro bono basis.

It was a fabulous and well-attended

retreat once again chaired by Judge Renee McElhane and Maurleen Cobb with lots of help from Tiffanie Clausewitz. Nancy Rapoport, Interim Dean of UNLV Law School, commented on the movie "Wonder Women! The Untold Story of American Superheroines" while Lisa Tatum, SBOT President, gave us an update from the State Bar and James Ehler, Regional Counsel from the State Bar, warned us of common ethics violations by Texas lawyers. Justice Rebecca Simmons and Donna McElroy reminded us of the importance of personal friendships



Suzanne Dapra Oliva

with other attorneys. Jane Fritz came with lots of good (con'd on last page)

September 2013 BCWB Luncheon:

Autumn Affair Beneficiary Girls Inc. of San Antonio's CEO and President, Rhonda Williamson

By Lindsay Scaief Riley

Please join us at noon on Tuesday, September 3, 2013 at Club Giraud as we welcome Rhonda Williamson, CEO and President of this year's Autumn Affair Beneficiary, Girls Inc. of San Antonio. Rhonda will inform attendees about how Girls Inc. "inspires all girls to be strong, smart, and bold," the goals of the organization's numerous programs, and how to get involved.

When: Tuesday, September 3, 2013

Time: Noon to 1:00 p.m.

Where: Club Giraud

Cost: \$25 (\$15 for students), payable at the door or online.

RSVP: Club Giraud has asked that we provide a headcount 48 hours in advance of the luncheon so please RSVP by Friday, August 30, 2013 to Events@bexarcountywomensbar.org.

Please include any dietary restrictions in your RSVP. We understand that schedules change, but we cannot guarantee a spot to individuals who do not RSVP by the date above. Walk-ins may be charged extra to cover the additional demands on Club Giraud's staff and no-shows may be billed.

For more information, contact Lindsay Riley (lriley@coxsmith.com) or Lauren Horne (lhorne@br-lawfirm.com). We hope to see you there!

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Elizabeth Copeland, speaker for the August luncheon

Autumn Affair



Hella Scheuerman



Leslie Hyman

By Hella Scheuerman & Leslie Hyman

Please join us at the 2013 Autumn Affair, on Thursday, October 10, 2013, at 6:00 pm, at the Witte Museum. This will be a very special evening, as we honor this year's Beneficiary, Girls Inc. of San Antonio, and this year's Belva Lockwood Award Recipients, Lisa Barkley and Molly Neck. The evening will include dinner, an auction, and a fabulous fashion show, honoring the Bexar County Judiciary. Autumn Affair Sponsorships are available at the following levels: Platinum (\$2000), Gold (\$1500) and Silver (\$1200). To sponsor, please contact Carmen Samaniego, at carmen-sam@mac.com or Marissa Helm, at marissahelm@gmail.com. The Bexar

County Women's Bar Foundation thanks the latest sponsors:

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State Bar of Texas

St. Mary's School of Law, St. Mary's Office of Alumni Relations & Development & St. Mary's Law Alumni Association

Tessmer Law Firm, PLLC

We also thank Monica Lerma, for coordinating a very successful Passport to Paradise Autumn Affair Kick-Off Event, where members shopped at Elaine Turner and the Impeccable Pig, while donating items for the Autumn Affair Auction. A special thank you to Elaine Turner and the Impeccable Pig, our hosts for the evening!

If you are interested in donating an auction item, please contact Jami Nance at Jami.Nance@gmail.com.

Wellness Column



Connie Arambula

By Connie Arambula

Please join the Bexar County Women's Bar Association on a Saturday fun run! Please plan on meeting at 10:30 a.m. at Phil Hardberger Park on Saturday, September 21, 2013. The Phil Hardberger Park is located at 13203 Blanco Road, 78216. We will meet near the restrooms in front of the Salado Crossing trail. Following the run please join us at the new Blanco BBQ at 13259 Blanco Road, San Antonio, TX 78216 for lunch and networking. Please contact Connie Arambula for further details at carambula@lyndworld.com or (210) 379-1025.

Tip of the month – Sleep researchers are discovering just how vital sleep is for learning, memory, health, and safety. The following are specific practices identified—known as “sleep hygiene”—that can help anyone have a great night of sleep.

- #1 Avoid caffeine, alcohol, nicotine, and other chemicals at night.
- #2 Create a sleep-inducing environment.
- #3 Establish a soothing pre-sleep routine.
- #4 Go to sleep when you're truly tired; struggling to fall sleep just leads to frustration.

#5 Don't be a nighttime clock-watcher.

#6 Wake up to the natural light.

#7 Try to maintain a consistent sleep schedule.

#8 Avoid napping late in the day.

#9 Lighten up on evening meals.

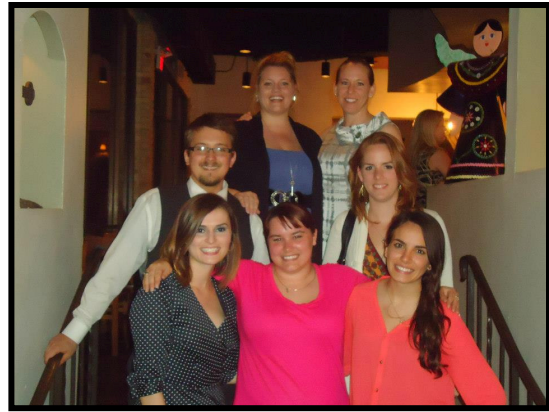
#10 Don't exercise late at night.

*From a resource from the Division of Sleep Medicine at Harvard Medical School <http://healthysleep.med.harvard.edu/healthy/getting/overcoming/tips>.

WLA Update

By Julia E. Null, WLA President Elect

St. Mary's School of Law 2013-2014 year has officially begun! The Women's Law Association Executive Board is excited to meet the 1L students at the September 12th Docket call. We will be welcoming all members and guest to our first general meeting will be on Wednesday, September 18th in the Alumni Room. We welcome you to join.



WLA Exec Board: Durime Fahim (Membership Chair), Kerriann Elizabeth Britt (Treasurer), Bianca Frisaura (President Elect), Kevin Bennett (Vice President), Ashley Graham (Secretary), Julia E. Null (President), Summer Bruington (Social Bruington), Not pictured: Kimberly Meyer (Alumni Relations Chair)

Save the Date



*Bexar County Women's Bar Foundation
Autumn Affair*

*Witte Museum
Thursday, October 10, 2013
Six o'clock in the evening*

Benefiting Girls Inc. of San Antonio

*For sponsorships and tickets, please contact
Marissa Helm at marissahelm@gmail.com or
Carmen Samaniego at carmensam@mac.com,
or visit: www.bexarcountywomensbar.org*

Next Around Town Luncheon

Do you have lunch plans? We invite you to join us for our September "Around Town Lunch," on Friday, September 27, 2013, at noon. This month, we are meeting for lunch downtown, at El Mirador Restaurant, located at 722 S. St. Mary's St., San Antonio, Tx 78205. This is a great opportunity to catch up with other BCWBA members in the area. If you know someone who is not a member, but would like to join BCWB, we encourage you to bring them to lunch. These series of lunches are usually in small groups, which is a great setting for meeting new members. We look forward to seeing you there!



Schmoyer Reinhard, LLP, would like to announce the promotion of Monica J. Lerma to Senior Counsel. Ms. Lerma will continue to represent clients in all aspects of labor and employment law.

President's Column (con'd from p. 1)

ideas for marketing our practices and Cynthia Orr contributed as well with a review of her experiences in the practice of law. Our panel of "Venuses" this year was made up of Justice Catherine Stone, Sheriff Susan Pamerleau, Singer Patsy Torres and Justice Rebecca Martinez. What interesting stories they shared of their career paths. Kudos to all for an educational and festive weekend!



Community Justice Clinic Participants

It was a full room at the Club Giraud where Elizabeth Copeland updated us on the Defense of Marriage Act and subsequent history.

Those attending the informal Around Town Lunch took part in lively discussions while getting to know one another at Pico de Gallo restaurant.

And, many thanks to Monica Lerma for organizing a fabulous Gift Gathering Kick-Off Event, where members shopped at Elaine Turner and the Impeccable Pig and some even found outfits or accessories to wear to the upcoming Autumn Affair on October 10th.

Till next time, join us at our "Around Town" lunch, bring a friend to our monthly luncheon, invite a new member to join or think about contributing time or items to the Autumn Affair. You will be surprised at how volunteering your talents can be rewarding personally as well as for the cause.



Lisa Tatum, President, State Bar of Texas



James Ehler & Retreat Attendees



Women in Medicine and Law is a grassroots organization bringing women of these two noble professions (and their friends) together for the purpose of raising money to find a cure for breast cancer. Our sentinel event of the year is a fundraising dinner scheduled for October 17, 2013. This will be the tenth year of our efforts which thus far have resulted in a cumulative \$1,058,000 in donations.

What is particularly important to us is that our donations are forwarded to Susan G Komen for the Cure® in the form of a restricted grant for medical research....that is, our money is going directly TO FIND A CURE. The event's expenses are underwritten by corporate sponsors; thus all of the donations received go directly to Susan G. Komen for the Cure®. We are proud that all our work for the event is done by volunteers, allowing us to have a cost/donation ratio of below 10%.

This year our LEAD SPONSOR of \$10,000 is University Health System. We have donation levels of:

- C - \$4000-\$7500
- U - \$2000-\$3500
- R - \$1000-\$1500
- E - \$500-\$750

A named table for ten is \$2500 and individual tickets are \$250. We welcome any items you might have for the silent auction. Recognition is given in the printed program and from the podium. Please visit www.womeninmedicineandlaw.org for more information.