

B Equal Times

October 2015

President's Message

It's finally here! Autumn

at the Veranda. You should

invitation by now. If you

haven't yet reserved your

seat, please do so immediate-

ly. We have secured a record

sorships this year, and we will

number of early table spon-

likely sell out. We are de-

support the Children's

lighted to have such a great

response as we raise funds to

Inside this

Belva Lockwood 2 **Award Recipients**

Autumn Affair Sponsors

Member Spotlight 4

Autumn Affair Kick-off Party

Judicial Spotlight 6

Book Review

Christmas Party Save the Date

Call for Board 8 Nominations

Restaurant Review

Membership Drive 10

Bereavement Center of South Affair is right around the cor-Texas. Please read further ner on Thursday, October 22, into this issue for information about our sponsors and our have received your beautiful amazing Belva Lockwood award winners.

Autumn Affair holds a very special place in my heart. I feel like this year, as president, my Bench Brunch/ Autumn Affair journey is coming full circle. As a brand new lawyer (not even licensed yet), Bench Brunch was my



first "lawyer event." I was overjoyed when Pam St. John, who was that year's Bench Brunch chair, personally invited me to sit at Akin Gump's sponsored table. She even gave me (con'd on p. 9)

October Luncheon: Lee Cusenbary - Hot Topics in Ethics

Please join us on October 6, 2015 to welcome Lee Cusenbary, General Counsel for Mission Pharmacal Company. Mr. Cusenbary has served as the chairman for the Association of Corporate Counsel's Annual Conference for the past seven years. He writes, produces, and directs the Ethics Follies[®]. He will discuss the most recent ethics news "headlines," touching on various legal and business ethics issues affecting law practice and existing between the lines of the rules in gray areas. He will address the realities of advising clients about

ethics issues in business transactions, to include how to maintain integrity, issues involving communication and the client-lawyer relationship, and reporting professional misconduct. .75 hours ethics CLE approved.

When: Tuesday, October 6, 2015

Time: Noon to 1:00 p.m.

Where: Club Giraud

Cost: \$25 for members, \$30 for non-members, \$20 for students, payable at the door

RSVP: Club Giraud needs a

headcount well in advance of the luncheon, so RSVP by Friday, October 2, 2015 to **Events@bexarcountywomensb** ar.org. Include dietary restrictions in your RSVP. We understand schedules change, but we can't guarantee a seat if you do not RSVP by the date above. Walk-ins will be charged \$35 to cover the additional demands on Club Giraud's staff. No-shows will be billed. For more information, contact Lindsay Riley (lriley@dykema.com) or Rachel Skinner (rskinner@dykema.com). We hope to see you there!

2015 Bexar County Women's Bar Foundation's Belva Lockwood Award Recipients: Sara E. Dysart & Shari Y. Mao

By Leslie Hyman

On October 22, 2015, the Bexar County Women's Bar Foundation will recognize local attorneys Sara E. Dysart and Shari Y. Mao as recipients of the Belva Lockwood Outstanding Lawyer and Outstanding Young Lawyer at its annual fundraising event Autumn Affair. Each year, recipients are chosen based on contributions to the legal profession, work undertaken to improve the status of the legal profession, and contributions to the community in the form of charitable and volunteer work. Nominees are also evaluated based on experience, reputation, and standing in the legal community. The Young Lawyer Award is given to an attorney who has been in practice for fewer than seven years.

Outstanding Lawyer Sara E. Dysart



Sara E. Dysart is a sole practitioner, who practices commercial real estate law.

A graduate of St. Mary's University (B.A. 1974 magna cum laude, J.D. 1981 with distinction) and University of Texas at San Antonio (M.A. 1977), she was admitted to the State Bar of Texas in 1981. She is a former briefing attorney for the 4th Court of Appeals (1981 - 1982).

Sara is a Trustee of the Texas Bar Foundation and a member of the State Bar of Texas Real Estate Forms Committee. She is a fellow of the American College of Real Estate Lawyers. She has served as a Director of the State Bar of Texas. member of the Real Estate, Probate and Trust Law Council of the State Bar of Texas, Chair of Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers, President of St. Mary's School of Law Alumni Association. Chair of the San Antonio Bar Foundation, and officer and director of the Bexar County Women's Bar Association. She has received a Presidential Citation from the President of the State Bar of Texas, two San Antonio Bar Association President's Awards, the San Antonio Bar Foundation Peacemaker Award, A Standing Ovation Award from the State Bar of Texas CLE staff, and the Lawyer's Concerned for Lawyer's Ralph Mock Award.

Sara is currently the Course Director for the State Bar of Texas Advanced Real Estate Drafting Course for 2016, and served as Co-Course Director of the State Bar of Texas Advanced Real Estate Course in 2008 and Course Director of the State Bar of Texas Real Estate Strategies Course in 2010. She has written and presented numerous CLE articles in the area of commercial real estate law.

Outstanding Young Lawyer Shari Y. Mao



Shari Y. Mao is an associate with Jackson Walker LLP's corporate section. She was born in Taiwan and immigrated to the United States when she was six years old. Shari graduated from Duke University, and prior to law school, ran the North American operations for an international flooring company before negotiating its sale. Shari received her J.D. from St. Mary's University School of Law. While a student in the immigration clinic, Shari helped battered women gain legal status.

As a new attorney, when Shari (con'd on p. 3)

2015 Bexar County Women's Bar Foundation's

Belva Lockwood Award Recipients (con'd from p. 2)

learned San Antonio attorneys had to travel to Austin to be officially sworn-in, she suggested that the Bexar County Women's Bar Foundation initiate a swearing-in ceremony in San Antonio. In 2014, Shari established the inaugural San Antonio Swearing-In Ceremony, which drew over 200 attendees in support of the new attorneys who were officially sworn in by Chief Justice Catherine Stone of the Texas Fourth Court of Appeals.

Shari participates regularly on speaking panels. Most recently, she served as a panelist in Justice Rebeca C. Martinez's Color of Justice Program, a program that educates, encourages and motivates young women from local high schools to consider a career in the law and judiciary. Shari is proficient in Mandarin, conversant in Taiwanese, and was named a Rising Star in 2014 and Best S.A. Lawyer in Business and Corporate Law 2015 by S.A. Scene magazine.

Belva Ann Bennett Lockwood (October 24, 1830 - May 19, 1917) was an American attorney, politician, educator, and author who was active in working for women's rights. Lockwood overcame many social and personal obstacles related to gender restrictions. After college, she became a teacher and principal, working to equalize

pay for women in education. She supported the movement for world peace, and was a proponent of temperance.

Lockwood graduated from law school in Washington, D.C., and became one of the first female lawyers in the United States. In 1879, she successfully petitioned Congress to be allowed to practice before the United States Supreme Court, becoming the first woman attorney given this privilege. Lockwood ran for president in 1884 and 1888 on the ticket of the National Equal Rights Party and was the first woman to appear on official ballots.

Thank You Autumn Affair Sponsors

By Hella Scheuerman & Suzanne Patrick

Bexar County Women's Bar would like to thank its generous Sponsors for this year's Autumn Affair, benefitting the Children's Bereavement Center of South Texas. The 2015 Autumn Affair will be held on Thursday, October 22, 2015, starting at 6:00 p.m., at The Veranda.

Platinum:

Langley & Banack, Inc.

Schmoyer Reinhard, LLP

Gold:

Church and Church PLLC

Curl, Stahl, Geis, PC

Davis Law Firm & Alex and Shirley Katzman

Dr. Erik Weitzel & Mrs. Shari Mao

Dykema Cox Smith

Gunn, Lee & Cave, PC

Haynes and Boone, LLP

Hon. Luz Elena & Miguel Chapa and Hella & Tyler Scheuerman

Jackson Walker, LLP

Norton Rose Fulbright

Pulman, Cappuccio, Pullen, Benson & Jones, LLP

Rosenblatt Law Firm, PC

Sara Dysart, PC

Silver:

Children's Bereavement Center & Judge Renée Yanta

Denim Group

Lindow, Stephens, Treat, LLP

Porter, Rogers, Dahlman & Gordon, PC

Preferred Counsel

Rackspace Hosting, Inc.

San Antonio Bar Association

St. Mary's University School of Law

Strasburger & Price, LLP

Tessmer Law Firm, PLLC

Wayne Wright, LLP

Member Spotlight: Laura Cauley



What's your current job?

I am a career law clerk to Senior United States District Judge David Ezra.

How long have you been a member of the BCWB? What's your best experience thus far? I have been a member of the BCWB since 2011, shortly after I became licensed. I have had wonderful experiences as a member, but I particularly enjoyed my time on the Auction Committee for Autumn Affair. I was able to work alongside some great attorneys and for a great cause.

Tell us about your morning ritual or daily routine.

My morning ritual includes sleeping until the last possible second before I know I will be late for work. After getting dressed, I try to sneak in as much snuggle time with my two-year old daughter before I am off to fight traffic driving into downtown.

What's your favorite moment of your career so far?

I have had the fortunate pleasure of working with, and alongside, some of the smartest and mostrespected judges in our community. I am honored to work with Senior Judge Ezra, and prior to that, I worked for U.S. Magistrate Judge Henry Bemporad and Chief Justice Sandee Bryan Marion on the Fourth Court of Appeals. I have learned so much from each of them and feel privileged to have worked with them.

What was your childhood dream job?

I wanted to be a doctor. That dream came crashing down after I took organic chemistry in college.

Guilty Pleasure: What can you not live without?

Yoga. Coffee. Wine.

What's the best career advice you've offered?

You have to find a work/life balance or else you will not be happy in either. Having a family puts your career into perspective and makes you balance and budget your time. A balance is possible, but sometimes you have to work for it. Find what you truly love to do.

Autumn Affair: Purchase Your Ticket Now!

We are experiencing record demand for this year's Autumn Affair. Invitations have been mailed and we are approaching full capacity. If you would like to attend, now is the time to purchase your ticket!

Please contact Hella Scheuerman at hella@dilleylawfirm.com to RSVP and purchase your individual ticket or pledge your sponsorship.

Autumn Affair Kick-off Party at Kendra Scott

By Connie Arambula & Carmen Samaniego

Members of the Bexar County Women's Bar Foundation gathered for the Autumn Affair Kickoff Party at Kendra Scott on September 16, 2015. Not only was the event a great opportunity to mingle, eat, and shop, but Kendra Scott donated 10% of all sales to the Autumn Affair beneficiary. This amounted to just over \$200 for the Children's Bereavement Center. This donation was in addition to all of the wine donated for Autumn Affair by those attending. Many thanks to Kendra Scott for making this event a great success!







Judicial Spotlight: Judge Stephani Walsh



Born in San Antonio to a physician and a lawyer, Judge Stephani Walsh was reared in a blended family

of twelve children. As the oldest of her mother's eight children, and the fifth of her father's twelve children, she attended St. Luke's Catholic School and high school in a rural area. Unaware of the significance of Title X and simply liking animals, she enrolled in agriculture classes in 1970, becoming one of the first five female students at John Marshall High School to join the Future Farmers of America.

She attended the University of Texas Health Science Center School of Nursing. She then worked for the Bexar County Hospital System as an emergency room registered nurse for the night shift.

Furthering her education, she attended St. Mary's Law School. After graduating in 1985, she began her legal career with a prominent trial firm. She opened her own law office in 1991, focused on family law, and accepted court appointments to represent children in abuse and neglect cases. With the birth of her sons in 1993 and 1995, Judge Walsh juggled rearing children and running a private practice with the support of her husband, a now retired San Antonio Police officer.

In 1996, after obtaining the required experience in family law litigation, Judge Walsh became board certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization in the area of Family Law. In 2012, she shifted her focus to the pursuit of a judicial career. In 2014, she was elected to the 45th District Court where she currently enjoys litigation from a different perspective.

September luncheon photo,
Autumn Affair co-chairs
Lisa Alcantar &
Greta McFarling with
Children's Bereavement
Center Outreach
Coordinator Leslie Wood &
special guests Katie Ruder &
Curtis Ruder



Book Review: The Martian



The Martian, Andy Weir (2011)

By Lisa Alcantar

My dad is certain science fiction is the best genre of literature. His reason? Science fiction is the complete package - adventure, romance, drama, history. For all his advocacy, science fiction isn't my cup of tea, generally. Obviously, I knew The Martian was science fiction novel going in, but aside from seeing a few one sentence glowing reviews, I knew nothing. I grabbed the audible and Kindle versions for a recent trip to the beach and averted my eyes and covered my ears each time the Matt Damon laden trailer appeared on the television.

The Martian is told through the log entries of Mark Watney, astronaut. Having encountered an unexpectedly strong storm, the crew of the Ares 3 Mission is forced to evacuate Mars. They believe Watney has been killed and depart the planet without him. Unbeknownst to his fellow crew members, NASA, and the rest of the work, Mark Watney is - you guessed it - alive. As I previously confessed, I love post -apocoleptic novels because they often boil down to guestions of survival and humanity, leaving me wondering what I would do if I lost all my modern

amenities. How would I function without instant communication and fast access to google? You can see why The Martian is right up my alley. Much of the book focuses on Watney's efforts to sustain his life in the face of unfathomable loneliness and unlikely rescue. As the only character for at least the first third of the book, it was essential that Watney be fully imagined. And he is. His character is full and rich, self-deprecating, smart, and lucky. You can't help rooting for his survival, even if your gut tells you it is against all the odds.

Eventually, through Watney's smart planning, dumb luck, and some really smart people at NASA, NASA (and the rest of the world) catch on to Watney's

continued presence on Mars. The remainder of the book becomes a race to bring one man home. I won't ruin the book for you. Get it; read it before the movie. In the interest of full disclosure, this book is a fast read, made faster by my occasional skimming over the sentences that were a bit heavy on the science/engineering jargon for my taste. It would be a shame to let the technical parts of this novel stop you from very real human stories in this novel. If all of that doesn't convince you to pick it up, maybe this will: this is the only book my dad (a retired Marine), my mom (family therapist), my husband (an artist), and I have all read and enjoyed. Here's to hoping you enjoy it, too!





Call for Nominations for the Bexar County Women's Bar Board of Directors

By Katherine Noll

Planning is underway for 2016. We are currently accepting nominations for candidates to fill six positions on our Board of Directors. We are looking for candidates who want to serve this great organization. No prior board experience is necessary.

The nominating committee will meet in early October to present the slate of officers and director candidates at the October board of directors meeting. If you or someone you know is interested, please submit your nomination to Katherine Noll at knoll@dykema.com. Nominations will close at noon on Friday, October 9, 2015.

BEXAR COUNTY WOMEN'S
BAR FOUNDATION
2015 AUTUMN AFFAIR BENEFICIARY
Children's Bereavement Center
of South Texas

The Children's Bereavement Center of South Texas (CBCST) was founded on May 20, 1997, as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Recognizing the permanent impact loss can have on young people, CBCST was established to help children and families grieving the death of a loved one.

As the sole provider in South Texas of grief support programs for children through young adulthood, CBCST wholeheartedly devotes itself to addressing the grief and loss needs of children from every culture and social circumstance to help them heal and move forward. CBCST believes each person's journey through grief is unique and therefore deserving of a distinctive approach to healing. Its goal is to help children and their caregivers understand the depth of their grief, stabilize and preserve family relationships, and develop healthy coping skills after the death of a loved one.

The CBCST's story began with one free peer support group serving 19 families. As the demand for its services has grown over the years, the CBCST has responded by adding, adapting, and enhancing its programs to fully meet the needs of children and families living with grief. Today the CBCST serves thousands of children, caregivers, and community members every year through ongoing support groups, individual and family counseling, and professional education and training programs.

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

a paper invitation, complete with heavy card stock, a cute fall theme, and an RSVP card with stamped return envelope.

I walked into the large ballroom at the then-new Westin La Cantera to see all of the women lawyers mingling and wearing brightly colored ribbons to celebrate their various contributions to the legal profession and the BCWB-judge, president, committee chair, Belva Lockwood, director. It was so overwhelming and made such a wonderfully positive impression on me of women supporting the accomplishments of other women. I knew then that I wanted ribbons on my name tag, too!

A few years later, Bench Brunch "went prime time." The following year, I was fortunate to chair the first-ever Autumn Affair with Toti Walia Aubrey. It was amazing and humbling to coordinate all the hundreds of volunteer hours that go into making Autumn Affair a success. I didn't think I could ever be more proud of anything than that event! Then in 2010, I was awarded the Belva Lockwood **Outstanding Young Lawyer** Award while pregnant with my first child. The plaque that hangs on my office wall is lovely, but for me, the best part was the purple Belva Lockwood ribbon that was added to my name tag that year.

Now, as BCWB President, I have the privilege of seeing Autumn Affair come to fruition from an entirely new vantage point—less involved in every detail, but still so invested in putting on a smashing event. I have such gratitude for this year's Autumn Affair co-chairs, Lisa Alcantar and Greta McFarling. They have done an amazing job, putting in countless hours of tireless work. I can't wait to see the excitement their revamped event generates!

Over the years, there have been discussions about eliminating the name tag ribbons at Autumn Affair. They're a lot of work! But I've lobbied to keep those colorful ribbons that made such an impression on me at my first Bench Brunch. I told the committee they could consider getting rid of them next year! I have saved every one of my Bench Brunch/Autumn Affair name tags. I am so proud of the collection of ribbons attached to them. To me, that collection reflects countless hours of work, lifelong friendships, my legal career, and my personal life. I wouldn't trade them for anything!

I hope to see you at the Veranda this year as we celebrate women judges, our fellow lawyers, the Children's Bereavement Center, and our newest Belva Lockwood award recipients, Sara Dysart and Shari Mao!



BEXAR COUNTY WOMEN'S

BAR FOUNDATION

PRESENTS

2015 Autumn Affair

BENEFITTING THE Children's Bereavement Center of South Texas

CELEBRATING THE
Women of the
Bexar County Judiciary

HONORING THE 2015 BELVA
LOCKWOOD AWARD RECIPIENTS
Sara Dysart & Shari Mao

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2015 THE VERANDA 1746 LOCKHILL SELMA ROAD 6:00 P.M.



Restaurant Review: Silo Terrace Oyster Bar Restaurant

By Dana A. Gorelik

I recently dined at Silo Terrace Oyster Bar Restaurant with friends. We opted for the location off IH10 near the Dominion, located at 22211 Suite 1210, IH 10 W, San Antonio, TX 78257. The entry way to the restaurant is a wine aficionado's dream, with walls of wine bottles behind class. Patrons take the elevator upstairs, to a very modern and elegantly designed restaurant. We went on a Saturday evening, and arrived prior to our reservation to enjoy the break in the heat, and have drinks at the outdoor rooftop bar. It was breezy on the rooftop bar with scenic views of the Dominon. Silo offers wonderful signature cocktails and an extensive wine list. I tried the margarita, which had a kick of spice and was delicious. Silo has two private rooms, perfect for your next meeting or gathering.

We started with oysters and salads. There was a large oyster selection, which did not disappoint. Several of us had the Little Gem Caesar salad, which was a classic I enjoyed. Other friends tried the Fried Green Tomato salad, served with lump crab remoulade, which looked amazing, and is something I plan to definitely try on my next visit.

The staff was very accommodating of our requests to modify entrees, and sides.

My husband had the steak,

which was cooked well and tasty. Another friend and I had the Miso Glazed Salmon, since the kitchen ran out of the special (halibut), as well as the Lobster Ravioli. I substituted the risotto for the wasabi mashed potatoes. I always enjoy risotto and this did not disappoint. Other tasty sides we tried included Brussels sprouts (served only with the special) and the asparagus. The salmon was cooked to perfection and not too dry. Yet another friend had the Parmesan Crusted Chicken, which was served with decadent looking truffle macaroni and cheese, and was also very good.

Finally, we ended dinner with a dessert sampler plate, which was compliments of the restaurant (I think because they felt badly they ran out of several entrees). The desserts were a key lime pie tart, which was delicious, a chocolate brownie type thing, and coconut cake. The dessert sampler plate easily allowed for four couples to each have tastes, which were enjoyed by all. Overall we had a lovely experience. Next visit, I would love to go and enjoy drinks and lite bites on the rooftop bar! I hope if you try Silo Oyster and Terrace Restaurant, you enjoy it as much as we did!







SHAKE UP YOUR USUAL SUNDAY BRUNCH ROUTINE WHERE YOU'LL MINGLE WITH MEMBERS OF SAN ANTONIO ORGANIZATIONS AND LEARN COCKTAIL MIXOLOGY FROM CHRISTOPHER WARE OF PARAMOUR BAR.

DRINKS INCLUDED AND FOOD PROVIDED BY COMMONWEALTH **COFFEEHOUSE & BAKERY**

30

PER GUEST **PARKING & FABULOUS** SHOPPING INCLUDED

MUST BE 21 YEARS OR OLDER TO ATTEND



junior league of san antonio

