



EQUAL TIMES

BEXAR COUNTY WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

December brings the excitement of non-stop festivities, holiday celebrations, special time with friends and families, and the anticipation of a new year. It also reminds us that the present year is rapidly coming to an end. While the season means a host of these things for me, it also means my term as President of the Bexar County Women's Bar has come to an end. And, thanks to you, it has been a great year. Many of you stepped up in so many ways, once again demonstrating the high-caliber of people that make up the BCWB. For that, I extend my sincerest and most heartfelt thank you.



Emma Cano

While it is impossible to thank everyone who has helped make this as successful a year as it was, I would like to thank the incredible board of directors who helped make my job that much easier.

- ***Suzanne Oliva**, our President-Elect, who will no doubt do a wonderful job leading this organization in 2013;
- ***Natalie Hall**, our Vice-President who has served on the board a number of years and is always ready and willing to help out in ways that only she can;
- ***Marissa Helm**, our Treasurer, who had the demanding task of keeping our finances in order throughout the year and managed it beautifully;
- ***Danielle Hargrove**, our Treasurer-Elect, who helped us stay on top of our investment accounts;
- ***Tiffanie Clausewitz**, our Secretary and Website and Communications Chair, who (thankfully) never said no, and always found a way to go above and beyond in everything, whether it was helping with our membership drive, planning events like the President's Party, managing our website and member communications, or countless other projects with which she helped;
- ***Laura Mason**, our immediate past-president who left me some "big shoes" to fill;
- ***Lisa Alcantar**, our Luncheons Chair, who together with her co-chair, **Denise Drake**, planned a wonderful series of interesting and informative luncheons throughout the year;
- ***Connie Arambula (formerly, Basel)**, our Mentor-Mentee Co-Chair, who helped us create and foster relationships with St. Mary's law students, and who, along with **Brittany Wild**, coordinated our fabulous Fiesta Kick-Off Party at Julian Gold;
- ***Lorie Blount**, our Community Service and Projects Chair who was always finding ways in which our membership could give back to our community; (con'd on p. 3)

DECEMBER 2012

In this issue:

2013 Membership Renewal	2
December's Around Town Lunch	2
Election Time for the Bexar County Women's Bar	4
WLA October Update	5
Christmas Luncheon Announcement	6



Katherine Noll

2013 Membership Renewal

By Katherine Noll

The 2013 Membership Drive is in full swing! Be sure to renew your membership for 2013 so you don't miss out on the many exciting events the Bexar County Women's Bar Association and Bexar County Women's Bar Foundation have planned for the year, including the retreat, CLE luncheons, fashion show, mentor/mentee outings, community assistance programs, socials, and the always popular Autumn Affair. Whether you are female or male, a judge, lawyer, paralegal, legal assistant, student, or "friend," we invite you to join and personally invite a new member to join as well!

Renew your membership online at www.bexarcountywomensbar.org. Click on the "About Us" pull-down menu, then click on "Membership." Payment can be made online or by mailing in a check. If you have any questions, please contact me at Membership@bexarcountywomensbar.org.

Renew your membership, join a committee, and together we'll make a real difference in our community!

Your membership renewal will entitle you to the following, including information on new membership activities for 2013:

- Monthly electronic copy of our newsletter, the *Equal Times*;
- Bexar County Women's Bar monthly luncheons with .75 hours of CLE credit at a discounted rate;
- Access to the Membership Directory;
- E-mail announcements of upcoming events and activities of interest;
- Discounted tickets to legal community functions (*e.g.*, Peacemakers Gala, SABA Installation Dinner, SABA Law Day Luncheon), subject to availability;
- Profile on Bexar County Women's Bar membership website;
- Access to membership information and community postings on the Bexar County Women's Bar membership website;
- Invitations to exclusive Bexar County Women's Bar functions, many of which are complimentary; and
- Network with some of the most powerful, amazing women in the state.

Thank you for your continued participation and support! I look forward to receiving your application and sharing more details with you about the upcoming year!

December's Around Town Lunch--La Fonda on Main

Take a break from Holiday shopping, end-of-year work projects, and all that family visiting for the Holidays!!

Join your Bexar County Women's Bar friends for a relaxing lunch December 6th at noon at La Fonda on Main.

No agenda; no CLE; no work.

Just lots of laughter, chips, and salsa (and maybe a little bit of gossip).

No RSVP required.

But if you think about it, would be super if you would email Judge McElhanev to give her a heads up on the "count"! Her email is rjmcelhanev@gmail.com

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

- ***Gaylia Brunson**, who did a tremendous job spearheading our Book Club meetings and planning our Cooking with the Judges CLE at Central Market;
- ***Maurleen Cobb**, who Co-Chaired this year's incredibly successful Autumn Affair, shortly after welcoming her second son;
- ***Elsa Marie Garza**, our Historian, who can always be found with a camera in hand and a warm smile;
- ***Monica Lerma**, who Co-Chaired this year's incredibly successful Autumn Affair;
- ***Julia Mann**, our Mentor-Mentee Co-Chair, who helped us create and foster relationships with St. Mary's law students;
- ***Judge Renee McElhaney**, who planned an incredibly entertaining, energetic, fun and wildly successful BCWB Retreat in Fredericksburg;
- ***Katherine Noll**, our Membership Chair, who always found new ways to get our membership involved, handled various tax issues for the organization, and helped spearhead the President's Party;
- ***Hella Scheuerman**, who planned our Law Day Luncheon and art contest with the students of Fox Tech High School; and
- ***Alison Williams**, who served as the St. Mary's Law School WLA representative on the board, helping us maintain close ties with the law school community.

I would also like to extend a special thanks to **Regina Stone-Harris**, who worked tirelessly on our newsletter, month after month, as she has done for the past several years. Thanks to Regina, our membership can stay informed about our organization in a well-organized, easy to read and informative newsletter. Regina, thank you for your contributions and hard work!

Thank you! It has been an honor and privilege to serve as your President. I appreciate the opportunity, and will always cherish the memories and treasure the friendships resulting from my involvement with the wonderful, inspiring and dedicated women of this organization. While my role will drastically change in the coming year, I promise not to disappear. This holiday season, I will raise an extra glass (or two) in gratitude to you, and toast the many successes of the BCWB during 2012, as well as those that will no doubt follow in 2013. Here is to an even better 2013. Cheers!

Upcoming Events:

December 7—Deadline to return ballots for BCWB election

December 14—Holiday and End of Year BCWB Luncheon at Hotel Contessa



BCWBA participants at the 2012 SABA Fun Run, shown left to right:

Angie Jimenez-Espinoza,
Emma Cano,
Miss Hargrove,
Danielle Hargrove,
Suzanne Oliva,
Justice Rebecca Simmons
& Elizabeth Copeland



Suzanne Dapra Oliva

Cast Your Vote!

Election Time for the Bexar County Women's Bar

By Suzanne Dapra Oliva

It's time again for the Bexar County Women's Bar to elect its Officers and Directors for the 2013 year. You should have already received your official ballot in the mail. We have a wonderful slate so don't forget to vote! Ballots *must be received* by 5 p.m. on Monday, December 3, 2012 in order to be included in the tally.

The slate of Officers is as follows:

- **President-Elect:** Tiffanie Clausewitz
- **Vice President:** Marissa Helm
- **Treasurer:** Katherine Patton Noll
- **Treasurer-Elect:** Lisa Alcantar
- **Secretary:** Maurleen Cobb

There are seven vacancies on the Board of Directors. The candidates for the Board of Directors are:

- Lorie Blount
- Gaylia Brunson
- Melanie Ann Castillo
- Laura Cauley
- Leslie Hyman
- Shari Y. Mao
- Greta McFarling
- Kayla Nance
- Molly E. Neck
- Carmen Samaniego
- Brittany Weil
- Lauren Zettler-Horne

If you have any questions, please contact Suzanne Dapra Oliva, Nominating Committee Chair at 210-431-8091 or via e-mail at oliva@satx.rr.com.

The BCWB would like to thank the Association of Corporate Counsel & Lee Cusenbary for the special champagne reception hosted for our members at the 2012 Ethics Follies at the Empire Theatre.



WLA October Update

By Alison R. Williams, WLA President

November has been a fantastic month for WLA! Since the last update, we have had the honor of two wonderful guest speakers, Bexar County District Attorney Susan Reid and TRLA attorney Richard Loza. Both shared advice and inspiration from personal experience, shared through stories and opinions gleaned from their time in the legal field. There were a lot of laughs and many good points made; additionally, we heard from a representative from His-panas Unidas who gave a short presentation on what that organization does.



Shown above: Susan Reid

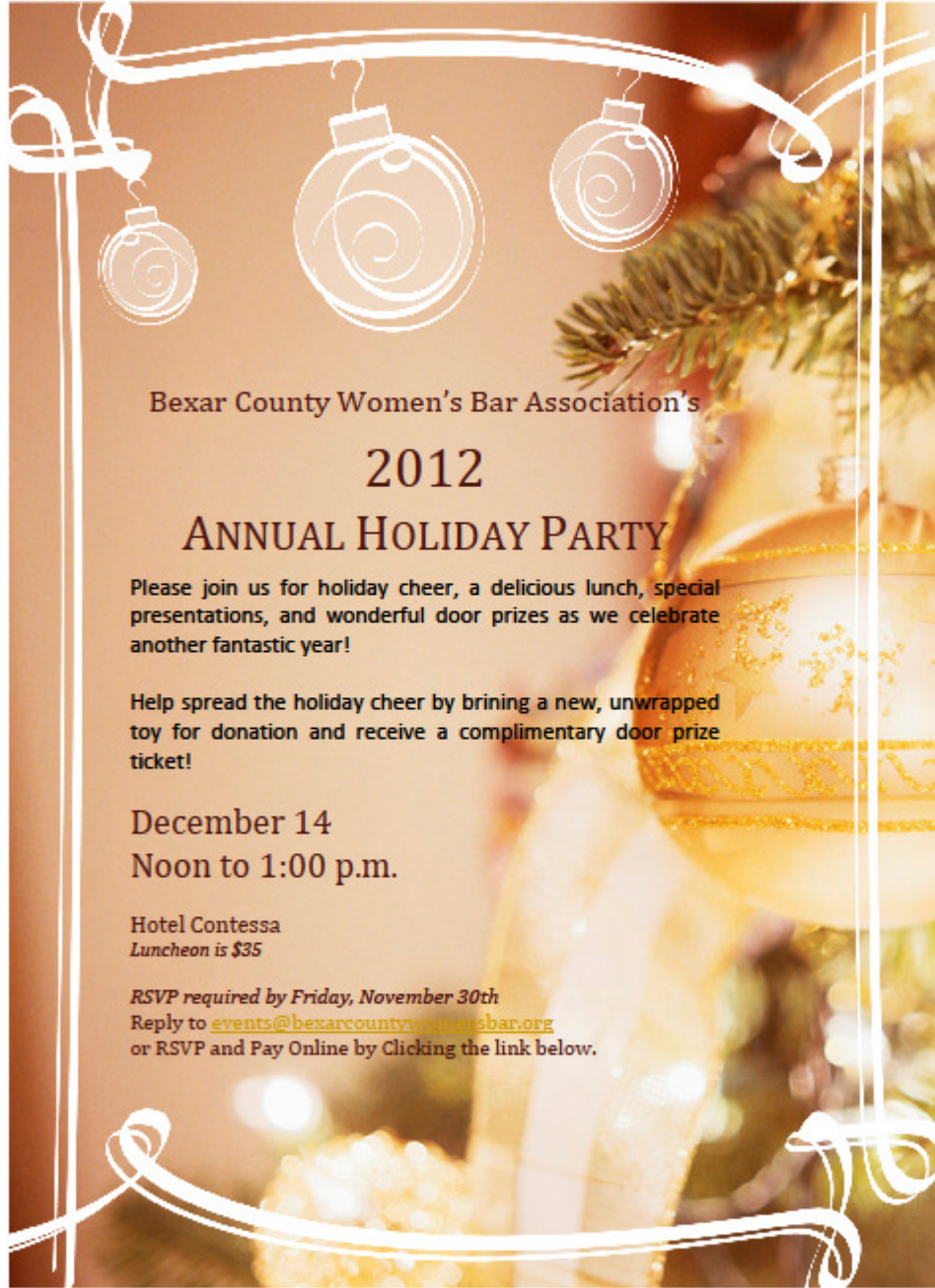
Shown at right: Richard Loza



This was a very timely presentation, as our silent auction was held on Thursday, November 15 in the Alumni Room of the Sarita Kennedy East Law Library. With nearly one hundred donated items on display, WLA brought in over \$8,000 for our charity! Thank you to all of those who participated, either through donations, bids, raffle tickets, auction monitoring or keeping the refreshment table stocked— we could not have achieved such success without such passionate and active members and supporters from both inside the law school and out. As the semester wound down and finals moved closer, WLA held its run-off for the position of President Elect. We are proud to announce our new President Elect, 2L Julia Neely! As president elect, Julia will work primarily with our alumni relations chair as well as the 1L WLA senators. She will also administer the elections for her board in the next school year and will attend the BCWB board meetings in January as WLA's representative.



Finally, I would like to thank President Emma Cano and every one of the BCWB board members that I have had the honor of serving with this year. It has truly been a pleasure to be a part of such an inspiring, hard-working and FUN group of strong, successful women. My law school experience has been greatly enriched because of that opportunity. Thank you to BCWB for your continued support of our Association and for partnering with us in supporting and furthering women in the legal field — it has been a fantastic year and I look forward to seeing you all at events and around town in 2013. Merry Christmas and happy holidays!



Bexar County Women's Bar Association's

2012

ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

Please join us for holiday cheer, a delicious lunch, special presentations, and wonderful door prizes as we celebrate another fantastic year!

Help spread the holiday cheer by bringing a new, unwrapped toy for donation and receive a complimentary door prize ticket!

December 14
Noon to 1:00 p.m.

Hotel Contessa
Luncheon is \$35

RSVP required by Friday, November 30th
Reply to events@bexarcountrywomensbar.org
or RSVP and Pay Online by Clicking the link below.