

President's Message

I asked you last month how you, dear reader, would help us lead. Members often tell us they want to get involved. And we welcome the help, but I realize I personally was letting you down by responding, "just tell me how you want to help!" Shame on me for putting the onus on our members.

Let me tell you about the wonderful opportunities we have com-

ing up this year for you to lead and to assist.

President's Party

On February 23, we will be welcoming our new and renewing members and honoring our past presidents. We will also be voting for this year's entries from Young Women's Leadership Academy into



the Law Day contest. Your critical eye helps us select our local contest winners and identify the entries we send on to the state level. As my kids might say, this is an easy peasy lemon

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Fourth Court of Appeals Memorial for the Honorable Shirley Butts

The Fourth Court of Appeals holds a monthly memorial honoring the life and legacy of local attorneys who've died and who made a lasting impression on our community.

On Feb. 9, we are scheduled to honor both Hon. Shirley Butts, the first woman to ever serve on the Fourth Court of Appeals, and Prof. Joe Anderson, who was a long time law professor at St. Mary's. Justice Butts also taught for many years at the law school. The memorial will be held at 3:00pm in the Double Height Courtroom on the second floor of the Bexar County Courthouse.

February Luncheon: Texas Advocacy Project

Brandy Howard - So You Are Stuck with a Pro Bono or Meager Family Law Case

Please join us at noon on Tuesday, February 7th at Club Giraud as we welcome Brandy Howard, a Staff Attorney with the Texas Advocacy Project. Ms. Howard will provide attorneys with information on how to represent victims in intimate partner violence relationships with their family law related cases. She will give attendees insight on the legal rights and resources available to victims of partner violence, sexual assault, and stalking. She will detail the law regarding these various situations and provide a roadmap for our members on how to rely on the legal system for support. She will discuss the ethical responsibilities attorneys who handle these types of cases have and the trauma usually involved as well as provide information on safety planning techniques. **1 hour CLE Approved (including .25 Ethics)**

When: Tuesday, February 7, 2017

Time: Noon to 1:15 p.m.

Where: Club Giraud

Cost: \$25 for members, \$30 for non-members, \$20 for students

RSVP: Please RSVP by Friday, February 3rd by visiting <https://bcwb.wildapricot.org/events>.

You can now register and pay online! 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 will be charged \$35 to cover the additional demands our caterers and no-shows will be billed.***

For more information, contact Meagan McKeown (mmckeown@dykema.com), Danielle Rushing (dnrushing@csg-law.com), or Cassie Matheson (cmatheson@hfgtx.com).

We hope to see you there!

Thank you to all members who have renewed!

Welcome new members:

Jule Chung, The Rosenblatt Law Firm

Kristi Dent, Dykema

Stephanie Guerrero, Dykema

Erin Fonte, Dykema

Lisa Murphy, Dykema

Sarah Ellison, Dykema

Alyssa Wickern, Brock Person Guerra Reyna

Robin Brzozowski, Brock Person Guerra Reyna

Erica Freno, Nicole E. Jackson Law Firm

Marisa Aragon, Catholic Charities

Amanda Hernandez, Flanary Law Firm

2017 Law Day Contest

By Hella Scheuerman

Please save the date for the Law Day Luncheon at the Plaza Club for Tuesday, April 4, 2017!

We have begun preparing for this year's Law Day Contest with the students from the Young Women's Leadership Academy. This year's State Bar of Texas Law Day theme is *The 14th Amendment: Transforming American Democracy*. The 2017 theme provides the opportunity to

explore the many ways the Fourteenth Amendment has reshaped American law and society.

The BCWBA Law Day Committee members will be visiting with the students at YWLA later in January to present them with the Law Day Contest Rules. All entries submitted by students, whether they choose to submit a poster, photo or editorial, will reflect the student's interpretation of the Law Day theme by responding to the following prompt: "Why is it

important that all people receive "equal protection of the laws?"

More details to come in next month's newsletter.

Autumn Affair Beneficiary Nominations and Call for Volunteers

The Bexar County Women's Bar Foundation is soliciting nominations for this year's Autumn Affair beneficiary.

If you know of a deserving local organization serving women or children that would like to apply to be this year's beneficiary, please send the name and contact information to Laura_Cauley@txwd.uscourts.gov.

All nominations are due by February 8th.

Additionally, The Bexar County Women's Bar Foundation is already working hard to put together its task force to help with Autumn Affair this year, and we need YOU! Every year we put together specific committees to handle various aspects of the Autumn Affair.

The committees include: Auction, Belva Lockwood, Decorations, Graphics, Historian, Honorees/Dignitaries, Kick Off Party, Publicity/Web Promotion, Set Up/Take Down, and Sponsorship.

If you are interested in serving on one of these committees or just want more information on getting involved please contact Rachel Skinner at rskinner@dykema.com.



Bexar County Women's Bar Association and Foundation President

Lisa Alcantar

Invites you to the

2017 PRESIDENT'S PARTY

Honoring Past Presidents and New Members

Thursday, February 23, 2017

5:30-7:30

Edera Osteria-Enoteca

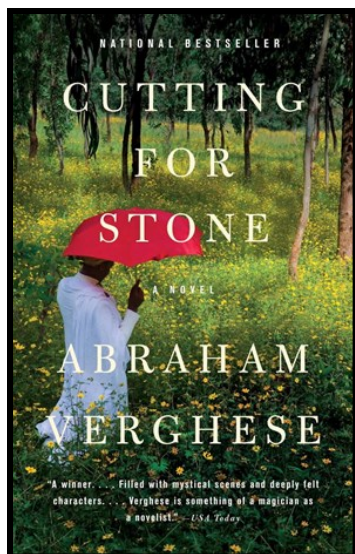
1903 San Pedro Avenue

Wine & Appetizers will be Served

RSVPs are not required, but are encouraged!

Email your reply to serina.rivela@uhs-sa.com

Book Review: *Cutting For Stone*



By Lauren M. Horne

I admit it. I fell for one of those chain mail type schemes on social media. For anyone who doesn't know what I am talking about, there was a book exchange post floating around social media that went something like this:

“WANTED: Participants for a book-loving social experiment. Comment if you want to participate and I'll send you details. What do you have to do? Buy your favorite book and send it to a stranger (I'll send you a name and address.) You will only be sending one book to one person. The number of books you will receive depends on how many participants

there are. The books that will show up on your door are the other people's much loved stories.”

Never mind that I was essentially sending my name and address to strangers and asking my friends to do the same. It was well worth it. Over three weeks, I received 14 books! The first one I read, *Cutting for Stone* by Abraham Verghese, did not disappoint. Verghese is not only a talented writer, but an excellent physician and teacher. His passion for medicine shines through in his book.

Cutting for Stone is the story of conjoined twin brothers, Marion and Shiva Stone, born of a union between an Indian nun and a British surgeon at a missionary hospital in Addis Ababa. The twins are orphaned by their mother's death in childbirth and their father's disappearance immediately thereafter. They survive separation at birth and are raised by two of the hospital's Indian doctors who bring them up as

their own children. The twins, both fascinated with medicine, come of age as Ethiopia hovers on the brink of revolution. Unfortunately, love, not politics, tears them apart. Marion is forced to flee his homeland and makes his way to America, finding refuge in his work at an underfunded, overcrowded New York City Hospital. When his past catches up to him, he must entrust his life to the two men he has trusted least in the world.

The book is long (534 pages), but builds on itself beautifully. One of the things I loved most is Varghese's ability to magnificently weave a detailed medical narrative into a story about so many additional things. Saying *Cutting for Stone* is a wonderful story about love, fate, forgiveness, life, and death seems too simple. The characters and the spirit of this story will stay with me for a long time.

January Luncheon Recap

By Cassie Matheson



Shown above: Justice Irene Rios, Meagan McKeown, Justice Patricia Alvarez, Cassie Matheson

On January 25, 2017, the Bexar County Women's Bar kicked off this year's monthly luncheons with a fantastic presentation by Justice Patricia O. Alvarez entitled "Becoming a Leader: A Difficult and Challenging Task."

Justice Alvarez shared her own personal story of hard work and determination in her path to leadership. The luncheon was graciously hosted by the St. Mary's Women's Law Association. We look forward to seeing everyone at our next luncheon on February 7 at Club Giraud!

Save The Important Dates for 2017!

- President's Party— February 23, 2017
- March Luncheon— March 7, 2017
- Law Day Luncheon — April 4, 2017
- Autumn Affair—October 19, 2017

LEAD Academy Reception

By Lauren M. Horne

On December 12, 2016, the Bexar County Women’s Bar Foundation LEAD Academy Steering Committee, Advisory Board, and BCWB Board of Directors honored our outstanding LEAD Academy inaugural class members at a reception.

The reception was hosted at Salon Vela at Paloma Blanca. We are looking forward to working with the inaugural class over the next year! Welcome to LEAD!



Marissa Helm, Steering Committee Member and BCWB Former President (2015); Greta McFarling, BCWB President-Elect; Katherine Noll, Steering Committee Member and BCWB Immediate Past President (2016)



Lara Brock, Class Member; Vanessa Hernandez Kemmy, Class Member



Mary Lisa Mireles, Class Member; Ashley Senary Dahlberg, Class Member; Cassie Matheson, Class Member; Patti Oviatt, Class Member (above)

Shavonne Smith, Class Member; Jane Ann Fosson, Class Member; Stephanie Curette, Class Member (right)



LEAD Academy Reception



Donna McElroy, Advisory Board; Sylvia Cardona, Steering Committee; Justice Rebeca Martinez, Advisory Board



Former Chief Justice Catherine M. Stone (ret.), Advisory Board; Malinda Gaul, Advisory Board; Leslie Hyman, Steering Committee



Tiffanie Clausewitz, LEAD Academy Director and BCWB Former President (2014); Lauren Horne, Steering Committee; Marissa Helm, Steering Committee and BCWB Former President (2015)



Christine Reinhard, Steering Committee and BCWB Former President (2010); Rebecca Magee, Class Member

President's Message (cont.)

squeeze volunteer opportunity and it is our first volunteer opportunity of the year. Help us break the volunteering ice and come share a drink with your fellow members.

Community Service

This year we are working on more community service opportunities for our members. Is this your niche? Lindsay Riley is heading up this committee and would welcome help and inspiration. You can email Lindsay at Lriley@dykema.com.

Autumn Affair

By and far, Autumn Affair is our biggest event and runs on the steam and strength of

our members. It is our goal to keep the event fresh, engaging and as rewarding as possible for our beneficiaries. There are so many ways to help. Only have a little time? Nominate a beneficiary. Love to plan events? Help us plan a kick-off party! Want to explore your hidden dream of being a designer? Lead the graphics team in creating invitations! Ready to make a big difference? Help plan the big auction. The point is simple: we can't do it without you. Which of these committees would you like to lead or help? Just reach out to Rachel Skinner at rskinner@dykema.com.

Annual Retreat

Judge Renee Yanta is in the process of kindling a roaring Retreat with the help of Ni-

cole Jackson. As always, we are curious as to what you would like to see at Retreat. Have you heard a phenomenal speaker recently that you think would be enriching? Would you like to sponsor a portion of the Retreat or help set up? Just let Judge Renee know you want to be on her team by emailing her at renee.yanta@bexar.org.

BCWB is here for you and because of you. We thank you for all your past service and we can't wait to see you this year!

February Around Town Luncheon

February Around Town Lunch with Rachel Skinner

Friday, February 24th at 12:00 PM



Where: SoLuna 7959 Broadway Street, Suite 204

When: Friday, February 24th at 12:00 PM

Who: Your fellow BCWB members

RSVP: While an RSVP isn't strictly necessary, we do want to make sure we have enough seats! Feel free to let us know you are coming by registering online.

Questions?

Email rskinner@dykema.com

Be sure to look for Rachel when you arrive!



BEXAR COUNTY WOMEN'S BAR FOUNDATION
LEAD ACADEMY
 LEAD. EMPOWER. ADVANCE. DEVELOP.

LEAD Academy's Winter Symposium

The LEAD Academy Steering Committee and Advisory Board will welcome their 2017 Inaugural Class to a Winter Symposium on Thursday, February 2 and Friday, February 3, 2017 in Fredericksburg, Texas. The Symposium is an intense two-day program led by some of the nation's leading women: Patricia K. Gillette, J.D., Courtney R. Chavez, J.D., Cynthia Pladziewicz, J.D., Ph.D., Jennifer Ostrich, PCC, Gindi Eckel Vincent, J.D., and Gwen Brehm, M.Ed., LPC, LMFT. The Winter Symposium is just one event in a series of year-long programming. To learn more about the 2017 faculty, please visit: www.bexarcountywomensbar.org/LEAD/Faculty.

THANK YOU
 to our 2017 LEAD Academy Sponsors

Texas Bar Foundation
Rosenblatt Law Firm
Hoblit Darling Ralls Hernandez & Hudlow LLP
Schmoyer Reinhard LLP
Langley & Banack, Inc.
Jackson Walker, L.L.P.
Pulman, Cappuccio, Pullen, Benson & Jones, LLP
Jennifer Scroggins/Platinum Wealth Solutions
Patricia Stegall Photography
Members of the LEAD Academy Steering Committee

Get Fit in 2017!

How are your New Years' Resolutions going? Needing some encouragement? Come join BCWB at community fitness events in March and April—we hope to see you there!



The Culinaria 5K will be on March 18, 2017. Culinaria is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to benefiting the San Antonio community and promoting San Antonio as an ideal wine and food destination.

For more information or to register for the run, visit: <http://culinariasa.org/san-antonio/5k-wine-beer-run-details/>

The Junior League of San Antonio is hosting the fifth annual Viva SA 5K/10K Race on March 25, 2017. The race is sponsored by Whole Foods Market and starts and ends at Hemisfair. The post-race celebration will include lots of Whole Food goodies, a DJ and Alamo Beer. Participants will receive a T-shirt, Fiesta finisher medal and a swag bag full of coupons and discounts. For more information or to register for the race, visit www.jlsa.org/viva-sa-race or email acrouch@jw.com



VIVA! SA RACE



OLLU is hosting its first-ever 5K Confetti Run and Walk on Saturday, April 1, 2017, on campus. The family-friendly event will include the race in addition to crafts, balloon art, an Easter egg hunt, pictures with the Easter Bunny and other activities. Participants will receive a T-shirt, customized bib, finisher medal and drawstring bag. For more information or to register for the race, visit www.ollusa.edu/5K.



TEXAS HIGH SCHOOL MOCK TRIAL COMPETITION

Please help judge the Texas High School Mock Trial Competition!

The 38th annual Texas High School Mock Trial Competition is looking for attorney volunteers to serve as judges for the regional competition in San Antonio at the Cadena Reeves Justice Center.

ALL licensed attorneys are qualified to judge. You do not need to be a litigator or have any litigation experience. The judging score sheets and a quick orientation before your shift makes it easy for anyone to judge!

If you don't want to judge alone - bring your colleagues! Our student competitors work hard and really appreciate that licensed attorneys are willing to support their efforts.

Saturday, February 11, 2017

Round 1: 8:00am-10:45am – (12 Judges Needed)

Round 2: 10:45am-1:30pm – (12 Judges Needed)

Round 3: 2:15pm - 5:00pm – (12 Judges Needed)

Sign Up Here: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090a4eacaa2da6fcl-2017>


If you have any questions about judging please contact Region 20's Coordinator, Dannick Hernandez at dhernandez@pg-law.com. We appreciate your time and consideration in helping with the success of this great program!



Texas Women Lawyers

2017 ANNUAL CLE AND ANNUAL MEETING

Learning to Lead



DEDMAN SCHOOL OF LAW

"LEADERSHIP STARTS WITH LEARNING"

-ROBERT H. DEDMAN SR.

FRIDAY, MARCH 3, 2017
SMU DEDMAN SCHOOL OF LAW | DALLAS, TEXAS
MCLE CREDIT PENDING

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

REGISTER ONLINE AT

<http://twl2017.eventbrite.com>

REGISTER BY MAIL

By submitting the form below

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING (✓)

\$195 TEXAS WOMEN LAWYERS INDIVIDUAL
Cost includes TWL Conference, Lunch, and Annual Membership to TWL

**\$150 GOVERNMENT, PUBLIC INTEREST,
AND ACADEMIC LAWYERS**
Cost includes TWL Conference, Lunch, and Annual Membership to TWL

\$100 NEWLY LICENSED ATTORNEYS
(Licensed Attorney for 1 year or less)
Cost includes TWL Conference, Lunch, and Annual Membership to TWL

\$100 HALF DAY ATTENDANCE
Cost includes either morning or afternoon session only

FREE LAW STUDENT
Cost includes TWL Conference, Lunch, and Annual Membership to TWL (Based on space availability)

\$3000 CHAMPION SPONSORSHIP
Included in marketing materials as underwriter of event – Exclusive advertising and time to speak to the attendees – Six complimentary admissions to the Conference and Speakers Reception – Exhibitor Table for promotional materials – Special recognition with company logo in course materials – Listed on event signage – Placement of materials in attendee bags

\$2000 ADVOCATE SPONSORSHIP
Six complimentary admissions to the Conference and Speakers Reception – Entitles sponsors to briefly welcome attendees – Exhibitor Table for promotional materials – Special recognition with company logo in course materials – Listed on event signage – Placement of materials in attendee bags

\$1500 COUNSELOR SPONSORSHIP
Six complimentary admissions to the Conference and Speakers Reception – Exhibitor Table for promotional materials – Listed in course materials – Listed on event signage – Placement of materials in attendee bags

\$1000 MENTOR SPONSORSHIP
Four complimentary admissions to the Conference and Speakers Reception – Listed in course materials – Listed on event signage – Placement of materials in attendee bags

\$500 ADVISOR SPONSORSHIP
Two complimentary admissions to the Conference and Speakers Reception – Listed in course materials – Listed on event signage – Placement of materials in attendee bags

\$250 PEER SPONSORSHIP
One complimentary admission to the Conference and Speakers Reception – Listed in course materials – Listed on event signage – Placement of materials in attendee bags

I CANNOT ATTEND THIS YEAR'S CONFERENCE, but I have enclosed a donation in the amount of \$ _____ in support of Texas Women Lawyers.

Remember that for \$250, you can be included in the Sponsorship Listing!

NAME:

FIRM:

TITLE:

ADDRESS:

CITY:

ST:

ZIP:

TELEPHONE NO.:

STATE BAR NO.:

EMAIL ADDRESS:

PRIMARY PRACTICE AREA:

For sponsors, please email the names and email addresses of participants using complimentary tickets to texas.women.lawyers.email@gmail.com.

Checks payable to: Texas Women Lawyers, Send to:
Jackson Walker LLP, c/o Jennifer F. Wertz, 100 Congress Avenue, Suite 1100, Austin, Texas 78701