



EQUAL TIMES

BEXAR COUNTY WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Last month, America lost a trail-blazer in women's history: Sally Ride, the first American woman to fly in space, died at the age of 61. She was a true pioneer and a resounding demonstration that there is no limit to the remarkable feats that women can accomplish.



Emma Cano

Ride was a graduate of Stanford University where she earned a doctorate in physics and various other degrees. After responding to an ad in the university student newspaper, Ride was selected to join NASA in 1978, as part of the first class to ever include women. Despite there being six women in the NASA Class of 1978, Ride was the first American woman to fly into orbit in 1983, aboard the Space Shuttle *Challenger*. Finally, we had the first American woman in space! (The first woman to fly in space was the Soviet Valentina Tereshkova in 1963.) Ride took a second trip aboard the *Challenger* the following year, carrying out her dream with remarkable humor and wit. Kathryn Sullivan, another woman in NASA's class of 1978, recounted one of her favorite memories:

In 1984, Mission Control woke us up with the standard mix of a bit of music and words to the effect of, "Good morning, *Challenger*. Houston standing by." Instead of the normal response, "Roger," [Ride] launched into an answering machine reply: "We're sorry nobody can take your call right now. Please leave your name and number..." Our grins turned to guffaws when the Capcom replied with his name and a real phone number for Mission Control. We carried her joke on throughout the flight, with everyone taking turns at making up the morning's fake answering machine message.

(con'd on p. 12)

AUGUST 2012

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Monica Lerma



BCWBF Autumn Affair 30th Year Anniversary of BCWBF's Fundraiser

By Monica Lerma

Our Autumn Affair is in two short months and the committee is busy planning an event to remember. We are looking forward not only to honoring our female judiciary and our beneficiary, Girls on the Run of Bexar County, but we will also be honoring two Belva Lockwood Award Winners. Sylvia Cardona of Langley & Banack, Inc. will be awarded the 2012 BCWBF Belva Lockwood Outstanding Lawyer Award and Tiffanie Clausewitz of Pulman, Cappuccio, Pullen & Benson, LLP will be awarded the 2012 BCWBF Belva Lockwood Outstanding Young Lawyer Award.

There is still time to join in the planning and help with the event. Special thanks to David Alcantar who graciously agreed to donate his time and talents to create the logo for our event flyer. Thank you David and Lisa Alcantar. We sincerely appreciate everyone's help!

Our next monthly meeting is Tuesday, August 14, at noon at Pulman, Cappuccio, Pullen & Benson, LLP (2161 NW Military Highway, Suite 400).

If you'd like to donate an item for our silent auction or raffle, please e-mail Tiffanie Clausewitz (tclausewitz@pulmanlaw.com) or Lisa Alcantar (lalcantar@prdg.com). And if you'd like to become a sponsor, please contact Hella Scheuerman at (hschc@allstate.com) or Lorie Blount at (Lorie.Blount@uhs-sa.com).

If are interested in joining a committee, but cannot make the monthly meetings, just let us know. Contact Autumn Affair co-chairs, Maurleen Cobb (210)378-8945 or Monica J. Lerma (210.464.7408)/ (mjlerma@sr-llp.com) and we will get you in touch with the committee of your choice.

We hope you can make it out to celebrate our beneficiary and our Belva Lockwood Award winners on Thursday, October 11, 2012, at 6:00 pm at the Witte Museum.

We're looking forward to hosting a great event! Thank you for helping to make this year's Autumn Affair a success!



Carol Jendrzey

Sylvia Cardona: Our 2012 Belva Lockwood Outstanding Lawyer

By Carol E. Jendrzey

We are excited to announce that Sylvia Cardona is this year's Belva Lockwood Outstanding Lawyer Award recipient. Sylvia, a shareholder at Langley & Banack, Inc., states that her passion "to help our community and advance our profession revolves around educating and mentoring our youth, preparing and presenting civic and legal educational programming, providing legal services to the poor, and serving our profession." Her passion for these worthy endeavors can be seen in the various activities she has been involved in over the years.



Sylvia was the first Latina to serve as President of the Texas Young Lawyers Association. During Sylvia's tenure as President, she oversaw and participated in over 22 member and community service based committees, including the committee which developed, created and implemented "Vote America: Honor the Fight Exercise Your Right." Through a joint project with the Georgia Young Lawyers Division, this video was shared/presented to over 50,000 students in Texas and Georgia. Sylvia personally helped educate thousands of students on the importance of voting and registered hundreds of students to vote.

Sylvia was also involved with the creation of "*Healing the Wounds: A Guide to Navigating the Legal System After Surviving Domestic Abuse.*" This video was shown to women to help end the cycle of domestic violence by empowering them to know the legal process available to them. Sylvia also helped train lawyers state wide and created and directed a training DVD in the pro bono representation of unaccompanied minors at the border through a partnership with the South Texas Pro Bono Asylum Representation Project.

Sylvia actively supports women in the profession and women based initiatives in formal and informal ways. Sylvia has been involved in the San Antonio Women's Chamber of Commerce and the Women's Pavilion at the Hemisfair Park. She supports programs such as Any Baby Can, the YWCA, Girls, Inc. and Kinetic Kids.

Women attorneys both in and outside her firm speak highly of the support and mentorship she has provided over the years. Frequent lunch partners for Sylvia are women law students or recently licensed women lawyers who are looking for advice about pressing and common issues unique to female lawyers. This desire to encourage and support (con'd on p. 9)



Priscilla Camacho

Tiffanie Clausewitz: Our 2012 Belva Lockwood Outstanding Young Lawyer

By Priscilla Camacho

This year's Outstanding Young Belva Lockwood Award recipient is Tiffanie Clausewitz of the law firm of Pulman, Cappuccio, Pullen, & Benson, LLP. An English graduate of Texas A&M University, Tiffanie later received her Masters in Public Administration from UTSA followed by her law degree from St. Mary's University.



While in law school, Tiffanie started her tireless work for women in the practice of law by being a member and later President of the law school's Women's Law Association (WLA). During that time, she along with her WLA members gave back to the local community, including participating in the Komen Race for the Cure and organizing the WLA annual auction which raised nearly \$10,000 for local charities.

Tiffanie's passion for service continued into her professional career. She currently serves as a Director on the Bexar County Women's Bar Association/Foundation, a post she had since 2009. Prior to being elected to the Board, Tiffanie helped organize our luncheons as the 2009 Luncheon Chair. She has also been a member of the Autumn Affair Committee since 2008, serving in various capacities including serving as co-chair with Laura Mason in 2010. In each of these roles, Tiffanie has not just completed tasks, she has gone above and beyond the call of duty taking each role and challenge.

Beyond her professional life, Tiffanie is first and foremost a proud and devoted mother and wife. She is active in her children's lives by assisting in Parent-Teacher organizations, Girl Scouts, and as a Sunday school teacher. Tiffanie recently began working with the United Way as a member of the Children's Issues Council and Women's Leadership Circle.

An extraordinary woman, mother, and friend, Tiffanie is well deserving of this year's Outstanding Young Belva Lockwood Award.

Autumn Affair Auction and Raffle "Wish List" Submit Your Donation Ideas Now!

By Tiffanie Clausewitz & Lisa Alcantar, Auction/Raffle Committee Co-Chairs

The Autumn Affair Auction and Raffle Committee has been hard at work! So far, we've approached almost 300 local businesses by letter or in person, requesting donations for this year's event. In addition to offering several wonderful silent auction packages and raffle items, we are expanding the wildly popular "balloon" raffle, which ensures each person purchasing a balloon goes home with a prize!

For this to work, we need your help. The following committee members are seeking items for our silent auction packages; if you have items to donate or ideas about who to contact, contact the respective committee member. **Please contact the committee member before contacting a potential donor so we can ensure businesses are approached by only one BCWB member.** The use of "GC" below refers to a Gift Certificate.

Sports Lovers

Leslie Hyman (lhyman@pulmanlaw.com)

- Spurs tickets
- Silver Stars tickets
- UTSA football or basketball tickets
- Talons' tickets
- Missions tickets
- Rampage tickets
- Alamo Bowl tickets
- Scorpions tickets

Downtown Weekend

Laura Cauley (laura.cauley@yahoo.com)

- Symphony or Theater Tickets
- Museum Tickets
- River Tour Tickets
- Restaurant GCs

Ladies' Spa Party

Courtney Kerr (ckerr@cassebbldg.com)

- Spa Party for six or eight
- Wine & Wine Glasses
- GC for Appetizers

(con'd on p. 6)



Tiffanie Clausewitz



Lisa Alcantar

**Autumn Affair Auction and Raffle "Wish List"
Submit Your Donation Ideas Now! (con'd)**

Grilling Package

Shanna Castro (scastro@pulmanlaw.com)

- Grilling Class
- GC for beer/liquor
- Grilling accessories
- Spice/Sauce/Rub Set



Wine Lovers

Brooke Waldrep (bwaldrep@sr-llp.com)

- Wine Refrigerator
- Wine Tasting Class for 12
- Fredericksburg Winery Tour
- One night stay in Fredericksburg
- Special Bottles of Wine

Get Fit Package

Tiffany Clausewitz (tclausewitz@pulmanlaw.com)

- Personal Training Sessions
- CrossFit/Boot Camp Class GC
- Sports Store GC
- Training Gear (pedometer, heart rate monitor, etc.)
- iPod shuffle/ear buds



Book Lover Package

Denise Drake (ddrake@coxsmith.com)

- Kindle/Kindle Fire or Nook
- Case for e-Reader
- Corresponding GC for e-reader books

Shop 'til You Drop Package

Leigh Levy (llevy@pulmanlaw.com)

- GC or items from Saks, Neimans, Nordstroms, J. Crew, Anthropologie, and other clothing/jewelry boutiques
- GC for La Cantera shops/restaurants

(con'd on p. 7)

Autumn Affair Auction and Raffle "Wish List" Submit Your Donation Ideas Now! (con'd)

Girls' Night Out

Elizabeth Thompson (ethompson@coxsmith.com)

- GC to Max's Wine Dive or other like place
- GC for painting party at Painting With a Twist or The Royal Canvas
- Movie or theater tickets



Date Night Package

Greta McFarling (gmcfarling@txcourts.gov)

- Movie or theater tickets
- Restaurant GCs

Balloon Items

Lisa Alcantar (lalcantar@prdg.com)

- Any and all gift certificates, ranging in value from \$20 up!
- Wine & Liquor



We also need "big ticket" Raffle items, such as the following:

- iPad & accessories
- Vacation (time share or home, airline tickets, etc.)
- Wine refrigerator and wine
- Fine jewelry

Please contact Tiffanie Clausewitz at tclausewitz@pulmanlaw.com for Raffle items.

If you have any, please contact Tiffanie Clausewitz (tclausewitz@pulmanlaw.com) or Lisa Alcantar (lalcantar@prdg.com). Thanks in advance for your help!



Lorie Blount

Community Service Column: The Young Women's Leadership Academy

By Lorie Blount

Join BCWB on a visit to tell students how and why you went to college and became a lawyer! The Young Women's Leadership Academy (YWLA) will hold 'mock college interviews' this fall with their 11th grade high school girls and would like BCWB attorneys to act as interviewers, providing productive critiques and teaching them good interviewing skills (i.e., answering the question, keeping it short and precise; avoiding 'umms' and 'yea', etc.). They would also appreciate it if we would speak about appropriate attire for interviews. Of course, we are also invited to tell students our personal stories of why we went to college and law school, and describe our exciting, challenging, and ever-evolving careers in the legal field!

If you are interested in speaking to students at YWLA, please contact Lorie Blount at lorie.blount@uhs-sa.com and she will forward you more information. We would like to have a group of BCWB lawyers visit the school sometime in September or October, as the students begin working on their college applications.

Information about the school: The YWLA is San Antonio's first all-girls public school, opened in August 2008 as a tuition-free college-preparatory school that focuses on math, science and technology – fields typically underrepresented by women.

The students at YWLA receive a quality education shaped by the core values of college preparation, responsible leadership and wellness life skills, values that contribute to the type of well-rounded education that is vital to our students' success in college. Consistently rated Exemplary by the state since its inception, YWLA is a collaborative effort between SAISD and the Foundation for the Education of Young Women.

All YWLA students are expected to attend and graduate from a four-year college or university. College preparation is ensured through a rigorous curriculum and a strong academic support system. College and career counseling is an integral part of the school's program.

The young women at YWLA are also taught responsible leadership through active participation in extra-curricular activities and service-learning opportunities. The girls are highly encouraged to not only participate, but to create their own clubs and service-learning opportunities. Leadership is infused in the classroom and developed through summer enrichment programs, such as creative writing, crime scene investigation and NASA camps. For more information, please see www.saisd.net/schools/ywla.



Judge Renee McElhaney

Retreat Wrap-Up: Fred(ericksburg) and Friends!!

By Judge Renee McElhaney

Great CLE; great friends; great wine! That sums up the 2012 Retreat! The 57 registrants pulled into Fredericksburg June 7th and began a jam-packed joint retreat with the Webb County Women's Bar Association. With the help of fabulous sponsors—Gabriel's Wine and Spirits, Kim Tindall & Associates, DepoTexas, E-Sencia Discovery, Inc., US Legal, and the BCWB Board—we had a marvelous retreat.

We reconnected with many great friends and fellow "Sisters in Law." We met new friends, including Judge Elma Salinas Ender and the President of the Webb County Women's Bar, Suntrease Williams. We enjoyed great catering and service by Black Tie Affairs, an amazing array of wines by the pool, a creative book club lead by Justice Rebecca Simmons, and outstanding CLE speakers, including Chief Justice Catherine Stone. Finally, we culminated the Retreat with an amazing panel of brave male lawyers, who we dubbed "the Martians." They humorously and frankly shared their experiences working with female lawyers, giving us a fresh perspective on professionalism and collegiality.



If you missed this year's retreat—5.5 hours of practical and interesting CLE and a bounty of new memories and friends—make plans now to schedule yourself for the 2013 event: Details to come!

Sylvia Cardona: Our 2012 Belva Lockwood Outstanding Lawyer (con'd)

female attorneys has led to Sylvia's latest project. She is in the process of organizing a workshop focusing on business development for women lawyers in San Antonio.

By Sylvia has been a great supporter of BCWBA. She is a familiar face at our luncheons, various events and retreats. She also has both served on and co-chaired the Auction Committee and co-chaired the Honorees committee.

These are only a sampling of the Sylvia's many accomplishments and commitments over the years. So, I hope that you will join me in October at our Autumn Affair on congratulating Sylvia on being this year's Belva Lockwood Outstanding Lawyer.

Women's Law Association Update

By Alison R. Williams

President, Women's Law Association

As the summer winds down, the WLA board is gearing up for a very exciting year. We had our first official board meeting at the end of June, and are holding our July meeting this weekend. As part of that agenda, the elected officers will be selecting our 2012 Silent Auction charity beneficiary and the board as a whole will be nailing down dates for the Fall semester's events. Among these are the general meetings each featuring a speaker, Wine and Wit, Silent auction and a potential mixer with the Hispanic Law Student Association and the Black Law Student Association. Also, the board is very excited to announce development and implementation of a "big sis/little sis" type program this year, pairing up 2L or 3L members with interested 1L members as they begin their journey through law school. Finally, the board is looking forward to the BCWBA/WLA mentor-mentee event in September.

Docket Call is the opportunity for 1Ls to learn about the law school's student organizations and is the time when all law students may join them. The board already has plans in place to speak at 1L orientation, visit 1L classes to remind them about WLA and to have a mid-morning breakfast taco "meet and greet" in the weeks leading up to Docket Call in September. We anticipate a large and active membership this year, and are very excited and grateful for all of the upcoming opportunities to partner with the Bexar County Women's Bar Association again for another fun and successful year. Have a great rest of the summer!

August Luncheon Announcement

By Lisa Alcantar

Please join us at Club Giraud on Tuesday, August 7 as we welcome Michelle Smith, Texas Civil Rights Project. Michelle will give a presentation entitled "Protecting Your Client's Right to Constitutional Confinement." Whether your practice area delves into criminal and immigration issues, Michelle's presentation is a great opportunity to expand your understanding of civil rights law. RSVP by Friday, August 3 clicking [here](http://events@bexarcountywomensbar.org) or emailing events@bexarcountywomensbar.org. Cost is \$25 (\$15 for students), payable online or at the door. CLE approved.



Lisa Alcantar



Connie Basel

**Mentor/Mentee
Happy Hour**

Thursday, Sept. 20
5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Home of Judge
Renee McElhaney:
301 W. Hollywood
San Antonio, TX

For information about
becoming a mentor:

Connie L. Basel
cbasel@lyndworld.com
or
Julia Mann
jmann@jw.com

Become a Mentor:

Attend the BCWBA Mentor/Mentee Fall Happy Hour

By Connie Basel

The BCWBA is hosting a Mentor/Mentee Happy Hour at the home of Judge Renee McElhaney (301 W. Hollywood) on Thursday, September 20 from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. Please plan to join us for hors d'oeuvres and wine!

If you would like to mentor a St. Mary's law student during the 2012 – 2013 school year, please send a list of five things that describe you to Julia Mann at jmann@jw.com. Or you may complete the "What makes me, ME" form at the end of the newsletter and email your completed form to the same address. Your responses will be used to pair you with one mentee.

The students love the opportunity to speak with practicing attorneys, and the mentoring relationship can be as easy as grabbing lunch or coffee with your mentee or even periodic email exchanges. The WLA students are very excited about this event and our ongoing mentoring program. Please plan to attend and volunteer to be a mentor!

Can't make the event but still want to be a mentor? If you can't make the happy hour but are interested in serving as a mentor, simply e-mail the completed form "What makes me, ME" to Julia Mann at jmann@jw.com. We will be sure to match you up with an eager law student!

September Luncheon

By Lisa P. Alcantar

Please join us at Club Giraud on Tuesday, September 4th as we welcome this year's Autumn Affair Beneficiary - Girls On the Run. Come learn more about this wonderful program that teaches young girls life skills through dynamic, conversation-based lessons and running games, all culminating in a celebratory 5k running event. RSVP by Friday, August 31, 2012 by clicking [here](#) or emailing events@bexarcountywomensbar.org. Cost is \$25 (\$15 for students), payable online or at the door.



Hella Scheuerman

At right, photos from last month's "Cooking with the Judges" event

August "Around Town" Lunch

By Hella Scheuerman

Please join us for the August "Around Town" lunch, on Thursday, August 16, 2012, at 12:00 p.m. Lunch will be at Panera, located in the Vineyard Shopping Center (Blanco & 1604). No RSVP is necessary. I look forward to seeing you there! It will be a great opportunity to catch up with other attorneys that practice in the North Central area.



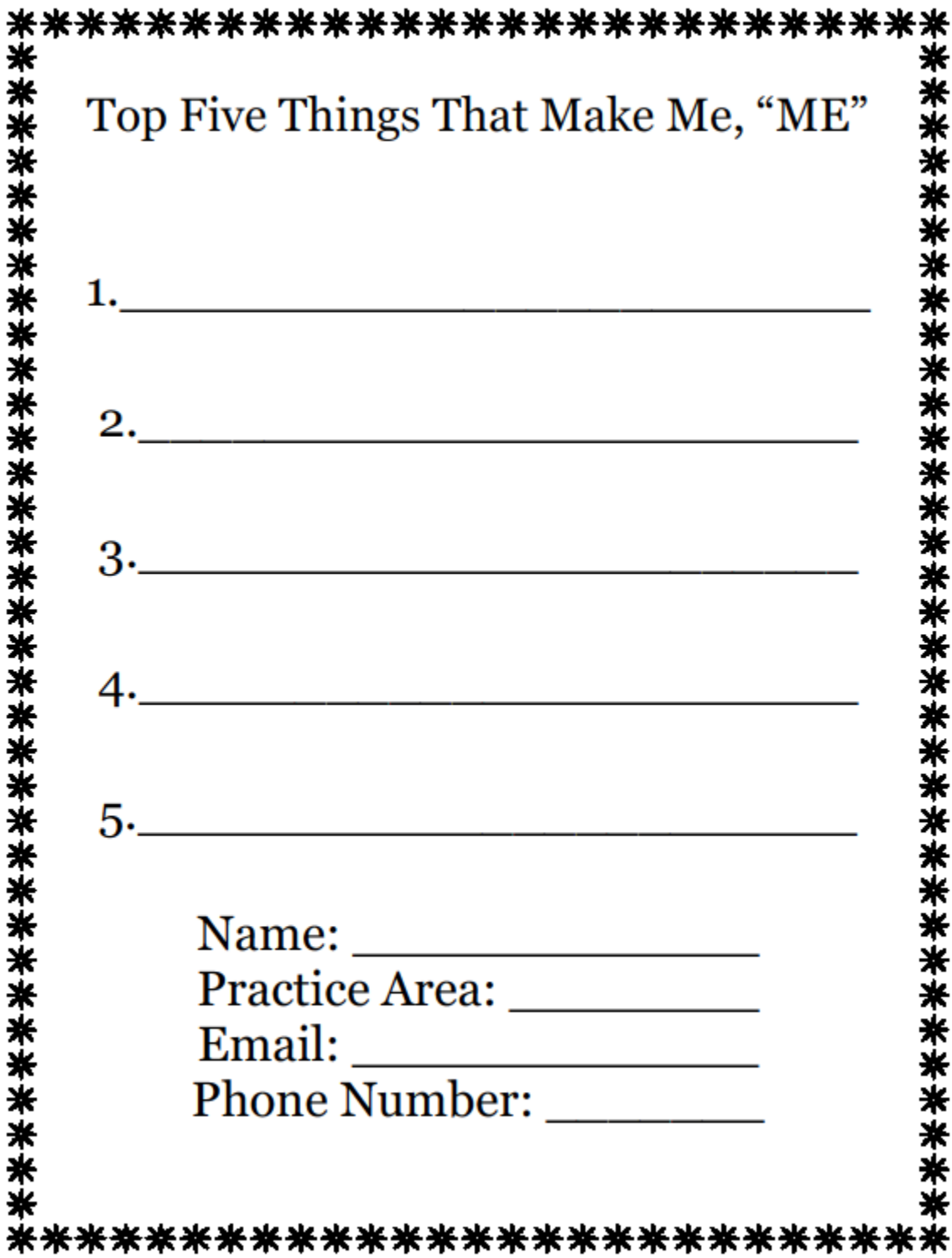
President's Column (con'd from p. 1)

She was assigned to a third flight on the *Challenger*, but that flight never took off because of the 1986 *Challenger* disaster that occurred shortly after take-off. She served NASA in many capacities throughout her life and eventually started a company dedicated to helping teach students, particularly young women and girls, about math, science and technology. An accomplished woman already, she wanted to inspire and encourage girls and young women to reach beyond societal expectations.

There have been so many "firsts" for women in America and there are no doubt many more to come. We owe much gratitude to the women who came before us and attained these "firsts" for us. But really, it doesn't so much matter who was first, as it does the fact that there was a "first"! May we all continue our efforts to ensure that we exhaust all the "firsts" possible.

Upcoming Events:

- August 5—Book Club at Stonewerks at The Rim: *The Weird Sisters*
- August 7—BCWB Monthly Luncheon at Club Giraud
- August 16—Around Town Lunch at Panera at The Vineyard (Blanco/1604)
- September 4—BCWB Monthly Luncheon at Club Giraud
- September 20—Mentor/Mentee Event at Judge Renee McElhaney's Home



Top Five Things That Make Me, "ME"

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

Name: _____

Practice Area: _____

Email: _____

Phone Number: _____

***Autumn Affair
of the
Bexar County
Women's Bar
Foundation***

***Benefiting—Girls on the Run of
Bexar County***

***Witte Museum
Thursday, October 11, 2012
Six O'Clock in the Evening***

***For sponsorships and tickets please
contact Lori Blount at (210) 358-2047,
lorie.blount@uhs-sa.com,
Hella Schenerman at (210) 482-4564
hschc@allstate.com, or
visit www.bexarcountywomensbar.org***

