Bexar County Women's Bar Association

BCWB

Bexar County Women's Bar Foundation

B Equal Times

September 2016

President's Message

It is almost time for our annual fundraising event, Autumn Affair! The Bexar County Women's Bar's signature event will be held at a new venue this year, the Pearl Stables, on Thursday, October 27, at 6:00 p.m. The beneficiaries of this year's Autumn Affair are the Children's Shelter and Deborah's House. A team lead by Shari Mao and Amanda Crouch has been busy planning the fantastic event which will feature both a live and silent auction.

We have an exciting new focus for the programing for the event. Like in the days of Bench Brunch, we will honor female judiciary in Bexar County. We will highlight three pioneer female judges: Justice Rose Spector, Judge Carol Haberman Knight-Sheen, and Judge Carolyn Spears-Peterson.

We hope you will attend and honor the amazing legacy of these three women as well as the Belva Lockwood award recipients, while raising mon-



ey for the beneficiaries of Autumn Affair! Sponsorship opportunities are still available, but don't wait, seating is limited for the event. I look forward to seeing you there!

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September Luncheon: Autumn Affair Beneficiaries

Please join us at noon on September 13 to welcome our Autumn Affair Beneficiaries. The Children's Shelter and Deborah's House. India Chumney, Chief Development Officer at The Children's Shelter, Kate Campbell, Executive Director at Deborah's House, and Lana Potts, Director of Development and Congregational Giving for Travis Park United Methodist Church, will teach us about The Children's Shelter's and Deborah's House's missions.

the types of services they provide, and the impact those services have had in the community.

When: September 13, 2016, 12:00 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 Thursday, September 9. You can now register and pay online! Include any dietary restrictions in your RSVP. We understand 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 on Club Giraud's staff and noshows will be billed.

For more information, contact Rachel Skinner (rskinner@dykema.com) or Meagan McKeown (mmckeown@dykema.com). We hope to see you there!

Call for Nominations for the BCWB's Bar Board of Directors

By Lisa P. Alcantar

Planning is underway for 2017. 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 organiza-

tion. No prior board experience is necessary. The nominating committee will meet in late September to present the slate of officers and director candidates at the October board of directors meeting. If you or someone you know is inter-

ested, please submit your nomination to Lisa Alcantar at <u>lalcantar@prdg.com</u>. Nominations will close at noon on Friday, September 16, 2016.



Autumn Affair Kick-off Party & Fundraiser

By Lauren M. Horne

Come enjoy Cynthia Comb's breathtaking backyard gardens and shop Stella & Dot's brand-new fall collection to kick-off the Bexar County Women's Bar Foundation's 2016 Autumn Affair fundraising for this year's

beneficiaries: Deborah's House and The Children's Shelter! A full 50% of your Stella & Dot purchase will go towards Autumn Affair, either as raffle and auction items or as cash contributions to our beneficiaries. Please also bring a gift card

valued at \$25 or more to be added to the auction or raffle. We hope you will join us, but if not, you can still support Autumn Affair by shopping online now at www.stelladot.com/ts/oaoi6!



Gals & Guns Event



By Brittany Weil

Dreamed of Being Annie Oakley?

Come Smash Some Clays with BCWB! BCWB is heading to the Wild West for a girls' only skeet shoot! Never shot skeet before? Not a problem!

Join us on September 8 at the San Antonio Gun Club from 5:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. The \$60 event fee includes field rental, instruction, and shells. There will be lite bites, wine and beer.

Limited space is available! In-

terested, contact Brittany Weil at bmweil@csg-law.com to find out whether spots are available.

If you need to cancel, please do so no later than September 1. Cancellations received after September 1 will be NONRE-FUNDABLE as BCWB will be required to pay the San Antonio Gun Club in advance. Have questions? Email Brittany Weil at bmweil@csg-law.com. Thank you to our generous sponsor, Transwestern!

Restaurant Review: Kneaders Bakery & Cafe



By Suzanne Patrick

Looking for a fast but delicious option for breakfast, lunch or even dinner? Need that perfect dessert place to meet a friend for a coffee or sweet treat? Want an excellent place to treat your kiddo for a cookie? Knead-

ers is it! They began in 1997 in Orem, Utah and are religious based company so don't try to go there on a Sunday (they are closed), but the other six days of the week are sure not to disappoint. They have excellent French toast (pictured) and other delicious breakfast options. Their freshly baked breads, pastries and soups are great and even their salads. They have healthy kid meal selections and a drive thru!

Kneaders is also a strong leader in the communities they are in and traditionally partner with local non-profits to help feed the needy in our community.

Here in San Antonio there are



two locations one in the Stone Oak area and one that opened last week in Alamo Ranch. So next time you are looking for a good alternative to the other options out there I highly recommend Kneaders. Our family loves it and yours will too!

Welcome New Members

Shelley Becker Shanna Castro

Delisi Friday (Friend of BCWB) Rachel Hoblit

Jessica Mann Erin McAuliffe

Nicole McNeel Chantal Peacock Kayla Tanner

Judicial Spotlight: Judge Antonia Arteaga





By Arya Koneru & Jordan Cadenhead, interns, 150th District Court

Judge Antonia Arteaga has served as the judge of the 57th District Court of Bexar County since 2008. Before taking the bench, Judge Artega worked as a solo practitioner, a city judge, and magistrate.

Why did you decide to become an attorney?

Judge Arteaga decided to become an attorney in grade school when she was required to announce what she wanted to be when she grew up. Because of her mother's influence of always helping others in need, Judge Arteaga developed an interest in volunteering her time in order to catapult others into a better position. As a freshman in High School, Judge Arteaga excelled at debate and loved competing at UIL events.

Who are the people that have had the greatest influence upon your legal career?

Judge Arteaga has had several mentors throughout her legal career. Judges Larry Noll and Andy Mireles were both mentors who welcomed her and took her under their wings. She considered both of them great friends and still looks to Judge Noll for advice and counsel for many issues she faces. Judge Pozza and Chief Justice Alma Lopez have also been great mentors. Judge Pozza actually lent Judge Arteaga her own robe when Judge Arteaga was first sworn in as an Associate Judge and Magistrate for the City of San Antonio. Judge Arteaga is greatly blessed by Chief Justice Lopez now serving as her campaign treasurer. Judge Arteaga also attributes her success to the support and love of her husband and her father-in-law, along with her beloved parents.

What are you most proud of so far in your legal career?

The Judge is most proud of the difference she has made in the lives of others. She fondly recalls the people who have told her first hand of the impact she has made on them. She is also very proud of the work she does as the new Bexar County Chair for the National Campaign to Stop Violence and its "Do the Write Thing" program. This program challenges students to write about their experiences with violence. and what they have done to overcome the struggles that come along with such turbulent experiences. By chairing "Do the Write Thing," Judge Arteaga has impacted the lives of 7th and 8th graders in Bexar County; over 4400 students participated in Bexar County this year each submitting their own essay about stopping violence. The top-placing essay winners are honored at a reception, and are awarded with the opportunity to visit Washington D.C. and read a portion of their essays to lawmakers. Through this program, students in Bexar County are allowed the opportunity to let their voice be heard and to make a difference to their peers. (con'd on p. 5)

Announcing the BCWBF LEAD Academy

The Bexar County Women's Bar Foundation is excited to announce the LEAD Academy, a leadership-development program born out of a desire to assist women attorneys attain the highest level of success in their firms and organizations, in their communities, and in the legal profession. The LEAD Academy aims to achieve this goal by teaching participants to:

- Lead in a way that is authentic and effective;
- Empower themselves with self -awareness and selfconfidence;
- Advance in their firms or organizations; and
- Develop robust professional networks.

The LEAD Academy will begin with a two-day symposium, followed by quarterly seminars and a graduation celebration. Faculty for the symposium and seminars include local and national experts on wide-ranging top-

Shown at right: Rachel Skinner, Jane Fritz, Sheriff Susan L. Pamerleau (speaker) and Lindsey Riley at the August Luncheon

ics including grit, authenticity and vision, risk taking, effective communication, business development, self-promotion, time management, people management, and self-care. In addition to instructional time, each session will include interactive workshops to allow participants to apply the lessons to their specific practices. Throughout the program, class members will have the unique opportunity to form relationships with and learn from successful, experienced women attorneys on the LEAD Academy Advisory Board.

Given the intensity of the programming, attendance is

mandatory for all 2017 sessions: February 2-3, May 11, August 3, November 2, and November 30. Additional details and application materials will soon be available

Please contact Marissa Helm at marissa.helm@parallon.com or 210-478-6800 if you would like to suggest inaugural class members or to request an application.



Judicial Spotlight: Judge Arteaga (con'd from p. 4)

What tips can you give other lawyers interested in becoming a judge?

Judge Arteaga suggests prospective judicial candidates volunteer on a campaign and keep honing their skills and knowledge of the law. It is also

important to talk to judges and to network with other attorneys.

What are you looking forward to the most during your time on the bench?

Judge Arteaga is most looking forward to serving and working

alongside the amazing Bexar County judiciary. Judge Arteaga is most looking forward to serving and working alongside the amazing Bexar County judiciary. She intends to continue to thrive with her community work and is always looking for opportunities to give back.

Member Spotlight: Lisa Davis





What's your current job? Health Law Partner at DuBois Bryant & Campbell, LLP.

How long have you been a member of the BCWB? Less than one year.

What's your best experience thus far? I continue to be blown away by how genuinely friendly and supportive the women of

BCWB are. It is by far the easiest group to network with that I have ever been a part of.

Tell us about your morning ritual or daily routine. I am NOT a morning person, so I typically sleep through the alarm. Bruce brings me a cup of coffee that sits on my bedside table until it gets cold. Then I wake up and drink the cold coffee. rub the sleep from my eyes, and turn on Good Morning America or the Today Show. After I get dressed, I drink a green smoothie to make sure I get some nutrition for the day. Then I am off to work, where things are rarely routine.

What's your favorite moment of your career so far? My favorite moment (so far) has to be arguing a complex Medicare reimbursement dispute to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco. My favorite moments (generally) are the times I got to spend talking about the law with my dad. He

was an exceptionally bright attorney, and it made me so happy to sit with him and have him challenge my thinking and guide me to new ways of solving complex legal problems. I miss those talks every single day.

What was your childhood dream job? I desperately wanted to be a journalist for *Rolling Stone Magazine*.

Guilty Pleasure: What can you not live without? A Mexican combination platter. Taco, Enchilada, Rice, Beans and Guacamole, with a side of Margarita on the Rocks.

What's the best career advice you've offered? Find people you like and work with them. This is true for both lawyers and clients. If you don't like someone, it is difficult to give them your best. Law is a very serious business, and demands our best at all times. It is unforgiving in that way. Therefore, surround yourself with people who energize you and you will find success.

Mentor/Mentee Event

By Gaylia Brunson & Serina Rivela

Please join the BCWBA and the St. Mary's Women's Law Association for happy hour on Thursday, November 3, at Piatti La Cantera (17803 La Cantera Pkwy #7114)! This is our Fall mentor/mentee mixer, so come out and meet our wonderful St. Mary's law students. You do not need an existing mentoring relationship to attend, but please encourage your existing and past mentees to come out. Drinks and appetizers sponsored by the BCWBA. For additional information regarding this event, contact Gaylia Brunson at gayliabrunson@gmail.com.

Save the Date: Judicial District Candidate Forum

Please join us for our Judicial District Candidate Forum on October 11, 2016 at Club Giraud. This is an excellent opportunity to learn more about the individuals running for local judicial offices in November. Historically, we've had a fantastic turnout at this event. Due to the large number of candidates this year, we expect limited seating.

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 please RSVP by Thursday, October 6. You can register and pay online! 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 on Club Giraud's staff and no -shows will be billed.

For more information, contact Rachel Skinner (<u>rskinner@dykema.com</u>) or Meagan McKeown (<u>mmckeown@dykema.com</u>). We hope to see you there!

September Around Town Luncheon

Join Katherine Noll & Rachel Skinner at

Liberty Bar

1111 S Alamo St, San Antonio, TX 78210

at Noon on Friday, September 23, 2016

No RSVP needed just come by and look for Katherine & Rachel!



2016 BCWB Autumn Affair Sponsors*

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*Sponsors as of September 1, 2016

