



March 2003 Newsletter Sponsored by  
Virginia Lawyers Weekly • Sands Anderson Marks & Miller

## Annual Legislative Luncheon

**DATE:** Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>  
12:15 p.m. (Note special time)  
Capital Club

Senator Henry Marsh, Senator Walter Stosch, Senator John Watkins, Delegate Viola Baskerville, Delegate Fenton Bland, Delegate Frank Hall, Delegate Frank Hargrove, Delegate Dwight Jones, Delegate Brad Marrs, Delegate Samuel Nixon, and Delegate John O'Bannon are expected to attend and to participate in a panel discussion of this year's General Assembly Session. It promises to be a great event.

Please forward topics of legislation you would like for the Committee to track and incorporate into the panel discussion to Lisa Hudson at [lhudson@sandsanderson.com](mailto:lhudson@sandsanderson.com). Comments and suggestions are always welcome! We look forward to seeing you there.

**LOCATION:** Capital Club  
Three James Center, Fourth Floor  
1051 East Cary Street

**COST:** \$17 for members, \$20 for guests

**RSVP:** by February 28 to Lisa Hudson  
783-6792 or [lhudson@sandsanderson.com](mailto:lhudson@sandsanderson.com)

**PAYMENT:** Mail in advance to:  
MRWBA, P.O. Box 538  
Richmond, Virginia 23218-0538

**PARKING:** James Center parking deck. Validated parking up to \$5.

Luncheon payment policies on page 3.



*President's Column  
by Carolyn A. White*

## *Sprinting Toward the Finish*

The excitement is building for our March 5 Legislative Luncheon. As this newsletter goes to press we have an unprecedented forty reservations on file - two weeks before the reservation deadline has even been announced! As you can see, space is filling quickly, so make your reservation through Committee Chair, Lisa Hudson, at [lhudson@sandsanderson.com](mailto:lhudson@sandsanderson.com) or 783-6792 soon.

Remember to arrive 15 minutes earlier than usual to mingle with your local legislative delegation. With at least ten legislators in attendance, we want to allow as much time as possible for them to present their remarks. Also, you still have time to request specific issues on which you would like commentary at our luncheon with the legislators. Since it will be difficult to stay on schedule and still take questions from the floor, please call or email Lisa in advance with legislative issues or specific pieces of legislation upon which you would like commentary. Remember, this is your opportunity to make an impression on our local delegation when we are not in the process of a particular judicial vacancy candidate endorsement!

You may remember at the beginning of the bar year we asked for mentor volunteers to match up with law students from the University of Richmond's Women Law Students Association. I am very pleased to announce that we were able to provide 17 mentors to this partnership. Obviously, this is a benefit to the law students. However, from looking down the roster of mentors, I am delighted to see that this also provides a great law-related community service avenue for those of our members who are in the corporate counsel and public service sectors. If you are interested in participating in this program next year, please contact Mary Hart at [mhart@barnesbatzli.com](mailto:mhart@barnesbatzli.com) or 796-1000.

Another law-related community service venture that produces no conflict of interest issues is our *Understanding Your Domestic Relations Rights* pamphlet. This publication is distributed state-wide, and not a month goes by that we don't get a call from someone wanting to re-order our pamphlet for further distribution. Tara Casey (819-5400) and Tracy Spencer (897-1515 x116) are assembling an editorial board for the 2003 revisions to the pamphlet. They need attorneys who are familiar with family law as well as attorneys who are not. After all, the pamphlet is designed to educate the general public, and we need to know that it will be clear to people who are not familiar with family law!

At the beginning of this bar year, we began our drive to develop more programs to involve our members in the West End. This year we have provided two CLE opportunities for our West End members (in October and in January) as well as simulcasting several of our luncheon programs. Unfortunately, our simulcasting of programs appears to be a casualty of the receivership proceedings involving The Reciprocal Group. So, for those of you who enjoyed the ability to participate in our lunches without the hassle of driving to and parking in downtown Richmond, please bring your ideas for alternative West End simulcast venues to Jennifer Crossland at 358-8000 or [jcrossland@pww-law.com](mailto:jcrossland@pww-law.com) or Laura White at 775-1409 or [lwhite@mcguirewoods.com](mailto:lwhite@mcguirewoods.com).

Finally, I'd like to give one last reminder about getting your name in the hat for Officer, Committee Chair, and Judicial Candidate Endorsement Committee Member elections and appointments. On the long-term to-do list for the MRWBA is another look at our bylaws provisions regarding the Judicial Candidate Endorsement process and planning for a 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration for the MRWBA. Contact Stephanie Grana at 343-4372 or Carole Yeatts at 697-1489 for details.

## Richmond Women's Business Consortium Kick-Off is a Success



The first event for the Richmond Women's Business Consortium (RWBC) was held on February 19, 2003 at the Bull and Bear Club. Despite the blustery start to the week with the sleet, snow and freezing rain, there were over 100 women from various organizations throughout the Richmond metropolitan area at the event. It was a great opportunity for our members to meet other women who are in the forefront of their professions. Thank each of you who were able to attend.



A Metro Richmond Women's Bar Association ad hoc committee has formed, focused on coordinating with the RWBC. If you are interested in being a part of this committee, please contact

Clair Harrington, at [harrington@mgm-law.com](mailto:harrington@mgm-law.com) or 359-3799 or Mary Hart, at [mhart@barnesbatzli.com](mailto:mhart@barnesbatzli.com) or 796-1000. Our next meeting will be March 7 at Meyer Goergen & Marris, 1301 N. Hamilton Street from 12:30-1:30 p.m.



If you are further interested in being a part of the network in the RWBC, take a look at the RWBC website at [www.smartconnectrwbc.com](http://www.smartconnectrwbc.com) and click on "Get Involved" for various committees. There are a lot of great opportunities awaiting you.



Please note that the RWBC is a consortium of women's organizations which represents a diverse group of interests. The information posted on the RWBC's website is representative of those different interests in the consortium and is not necessarily reflective of the MRWBA's positions. The MRWBA does not endorse, takes no responsibility for, and exercises no control over the RWBC's website with respect to the views of the individual organizations, or the server's contents, nor does the Association vouch for the accuracy of the information contained therein.

### NOTICE:

All luncheon reservations must be made by February 28. Reservations may be cancelled prior to this deadline. You must make a reservation even if you mail your check. No reservations made after the deadline are guaranteed. Limited walk-in spaces are available for each luncheon on a first-come-first-served basis.

If you do not attend the luncheon after making a reservation and do not cancel prior to the deadline, you will be charged for the cost of the luncheon. If you have made a reservation and cannot attend the luncheon, you may substitute someone in your place. However, you (or your substitute) must advise Lisa Hudson ([lhudson@sandsanders.com](mailto:lhudson@sandsanders.com) or 783-6792) of such substitution prior to or at the luncheon.

If you have any questions about the billing process, please contact Anne Marie Cushmac, Treasurer ([acushmac@oag.state.va.us](mailto:acushmac@oag.state.va.us) or 225-3211).

## Committee Reports

The **Legislative Committee** is finalizing preparations for our March 5, 2003 Annual Legislative Luncheon to be held at the Capital Club at 12:15 p.m. Hopefully you have received your invitation by mail already. Thanks to the many of you who have already responded with your intention to attend. For those who have not, please rsvp to Lisa Hudson at lhudson@sandsanderson.com or by calling 783-6792 by Friday, February 28th.

**CLE Opportunity:** Lawyers are needed to conduct mock trials for the supreme court of Virginia's upcoming new judges' orientation program. Mock trials are to be conducted on Wednesday afternoon, April 2, from 12:30 until approximately 5:00 p.m. in Richmond area courtrooms. There are two different scripts: one for a circuit court jury trial, one for a general district bench trial. Each script requires that you provide two witnesses for your case. We are requesting that the Virginia State Bar approve this exercise for CLE credits (1 or 2 depending on the case you have). If you are interested in helping, please call Robin Byrd Powell at the Supreme Court of Virginia, 804-786-8569 or e-mail her at rpowell@courts.state.va.us.

The **Public Service Committee** needs your help. We need volunteers for the Editorial Board of the "Understanding Your Domestic Relations Rights in Virginia" Pamphlet. The Editorial Board reviews the new domestic relations laws (civil and criminal) and incorporates them into the Pamphlet. The Editorial Board also reads the Pamphlet and makes sure that everything is grammatically correct. You do not necessarily have to have a background in domestic relations law. If you are interested in serving on the Editorial Board, please contact Tracy Spencer at 897-1515 ext. 116 or Tara Casey at 819-5506.

### Job Notice

The Virginia Department of Labor and Industry, Labor and Employment Law Division, is looking for a law student or recent graduate to serve as an unpaid part-time intern. Relevant areas of interest include labor and employment law, and administrative law. Flexible hours are available. The intern may begin as soon as possible. If you know someone who may be interested, please contact Jeannine Rose at 371-0463 or jdr@doli.state.va.us.

## **2002-2003 MRWBA Board of Directors**

### Officers

**President, Carolyn A. White**  
285-8601 or carolyn.white@dwlesq.com

**President-elect, Stephanie E. Grana**  
343-4372 or sgrana@cantorarkema.com

**Vice President, Clair A. Harrington**  
359-3799 or harrington@mgm-law.com

**Secretary/Historian, R. Jill Wells**  
565-1165 or jwells@reciprocalgroup.com

**Treasurer, Anne Marie Cushmac**  
225-3211 or acushmac@oag.state.va.us

**Past President, Carole E. Yeatts**  
697-1489 or carole.yeatts@troutmansanders.com

### Committee Chairs

**Awards, Amy Hay Schwab**  
786-3344 or aschwab@oag.state.va.us

**CLE, Michelle Lam Harman**  
784-2900 or mchlaw@attbi.com

**Finance, Karen E. Dunivan**  
698-6232 or kdunivan@t-mlaw.com

**Judicial Nominations, Ruth E. Nathanson**  
342-1400 or rmath@maloneyparks.com

**Legislative, Lisa T. Hudson**  
783-7234 or lhudson@sandsanderson.com

**Membership, Renata M. Manzo**  
788-8606 or rmanzo@hunton.com

**Programs, Jennifer E. Crossland**  
358-8000 or jcrossland@pww-law.com

**Programs, Laura R. White**  
775-1409 or lwhite@mcguirewoods.com

**PR/Newsletter, Christine N. Bostick**  
697-1320 or chris.bostick@troutmansanders.com

**Public Service, Tara L. Casey**  
819-5400 or tara.casey@usdoj.gov

**Public Service, Tracy H. Spencer**  
897-1515 or Elley05@attbi.com

**Special Projects & Mentorship, Mary K. Hart**  
796-1000 or mhart@barnesbatzli.com

**Admin. Assistant, Karen Kerekes**  
nerak1983@mindspring.com



**INTERESTED IN A LEADERSHIP  
ROLE  
FOR THE 2003-2004 BAR YEAR?**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Firm: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I am interested in an **officer position**:

- President-elect
- Vice President
- Treasurer
- Secretary/Historian
- Any officer position

Yes, I am interested in serving on the **judicial endorsement committee**.

Yes, I am interested in chairing one of the following **committees**

- |                      |               |                |
|----------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Awards               | CLE           | Finance        |
| Judicial Endorsement | Legislative   | Membership     |
| Programs             | PR/Newsletter | Public Service |

**First choice:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Second choice:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Third choice:** \_\_\_\_\_

Under MRWBA bylaws, a committee of past presidents nominates the officers and judicial endorsement committee members. The membership votes on these nominations during the May annual meeting.

If you are interested in serving as an officer or on the judicial endorsement committee, complete this form and return to **Carole Yeatts, nominating committee chair, by March 5<sup>th</sup>. Fax: 698-6445. Phone: 697-1489 Email: carole.yeatts@troutmansanders.com.**

Committee chairs also serve on the MRWBA board of directors and are selected by the president-elect. If you are interested in chairing a committee, complete this form and return to **Stephanie Grana, president-elect. Fax: 644-9205. Phone: 343-4372 Email: sgrana@cantorarkema.com.**

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**Mark Your Calendar  
for  
Membership  
Luncheons**

March 5  
Legislative Luncheon  
12:15 p.m. Capital Club

April 2  
Program TBA  
12:30 p.m. Capital Club

May 7  
Annual Meeting  
12:30 p.m. Capital Club

**Newsletter Items?**

Send to Chris Bostick  
by fax at 697-1339 or by email  
[chris.bostick@troutmansanders.com](mailto:chris.bostick@troutmansanders.com)

Next Deadline: March 14



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