



November 2003
Newsletter Sponsored by Chandler & Halasz

LUNCHEON PROGRAM:
“Using Your Competitive Edge” by Michele Nahra
DATE: Wednesday, November 5th

Have you ever heard, “You are your product,” or “Your people are your greatest resource”? In this information age, what sets organizations apart is their people. Leadership is a buzz-word in corporate America. Everyone wants it, but how do you get it? What does it look like? In “Using Your Competitive Edge,” Michele Nahra will give you a model that will enable you to sharpen your skills and develop your leadership potential. Real leadership produces real change.

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

COST: \$17.00 for members
\$20.00 for non-members

RSVP by November 3rd: Karen Dunivan
voice mail: 698-6232
e-mail: kdunivan@t-mlaw.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.

NOTICE:

All luncheon reservations must be made by the deadline specified above. 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 Karen Dunivan at 698-6232 or kdunivan@t-mlaw.com of such substitution prior to or at the luncheon.

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



*President's Column
by Stephanie E. Grana*

Interested in expanding your leadership potential or making use of your “people” more effectively? Join us for the November luncheon to receive some helpful hints from Michele Nahra on “Using Your Competitive Edge”.

Mark your calendar NOW and make plans to attend the lunch meeting on Wednesday, November 5th at 12:30 at the Capital Club. Be assertive - call some friends and fill a table!

Looking to the near future, December 3rd is our Tenth Annual Holiday Awards Luncheon and Secretary/Legal Assistant Thank You. We hope to see a significant portion of our membership in attendance at this festive event. Invite your secretary or assistant and take her/him to lunch as an early Holiday gift. Also, take the opportunity to nominate someone who exemplifies legal professionalism for the MRWBA Women of Achievement Award. This is your opportunity to provide the proper recognition to a deserving individual. Should you have any questions, please contact Kim (kramsey@fgb.com) or Renata (rmanzo@hunton.com), our Awards chairpersons.

Looking to 2004, the MRWBA's 30th Anniversary will be here – imagine that! We are planning a special luncheon in February. If you can help us with this exciting event, please contact Jill (jwells@prolegia.com). Also, if you have any old MRWBA event photos, please provide them to Jill.

As we are all aware, November is a special month to think of all the things we are thankful for. Off the top of my head and in light of the devastation caused by Isabel, I am thinking of a complete roof over my house, power, cable, roads free of fallen trees and a family that is safe. For those of you still recovering and rebuilding, you are in my thoughts. Before the holiday season gets into full swing and makes you crazy, take a moment to reflect upon the people in your life that you are thankful for and let them know.

Move Your Feet to a Jingling Beat!

Imagine the sounds of hundreds of thousands of bells as people throughout the United States run and walk in the Jingle Bell Run/Walk for Arthritis®. Across the country this sound will be heard as people like you tie jingle bells to their shoelaces, don festive costumes and join neighbors in support of the Arthritis Foundation's mission to prevent, control and cure arthritis and related diseases.

The Jingle Bell Run is now one of Richmond's Top Ten Races thanks to our fantastic participants! Join us for an exciting 5K run or walk at the brand new Stony Point Fashion Park. What a perfect way to kick off the holiday season! Choose from a 5K fun run, 5K walk, or a 3K fun walk. Wear a seasonal costume and tie some jingling bells to your shoelaces to capture the best of the holiday season. Race Day is November 22, 2003, and registration opens at 7:00 am. The 5K and 3K races start at 8 am. The registration fee is \$25. (The fee will increase to \$28 after November 8.) Please contact the Arthritis Foundation at (804) 359-1700 ext. 310 or mdaniels@arthritis.org for more information.

Committee Reports

Judicial Candidate Endorsement Committee

Thank you to all of you who have been forwarding nominations and/or information about candidates interested in judgeships soon to be vacated. Please keep referring those names to the JCE Committee so that we can include them in our process and with our joint interviews with other bar organizations to be scheduled later this fall. Your continued cooperation with this information flow is much appreciated. Questions, comments, suggestions, and feedback are always also welcome at lHUDSON@sandsanderson.com.

Public Service Committee

The Central Virginia Foodbank responded quickly and efficiently to the needs of those affected by Hurricane Isabel. However, as the winter season approaches, they are in need of replenishing their shelves. The Public Service Committee asks each of you to bring several cans of fruit, vegetables or tuna fish to the November 5 and December 3 luncheons. Why is this important? Central Virginia Foodbank wants to ensure that every child living below the poverty level in our area has an opportunity for a least one meal a day. To accomplish that goal, children receive 59% of the food CVF distributes. Please help them to ensure that no mother in Richmond has to send her child to bed hungry. To learn more about CVF, check out their web site, www.cvfb.org, or call Executive Director Fay G. Lohr at 804-521-2500. If you have any questions about the food drive, please contact Tara Casey at 819-5506.

CLE Committee

Mark your calendars to attend a FREE ethics seminar on November 20, 2003!

The CLE Committee is pleased to announce that the MRWBA will be co-sponsoring a **free**, one-hour ethics CLE with the Henrico and Old Dominion Bar Associations on November 20, 2003, from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the T. C. Williams School of Law. The topic of the one-hour, panel discussion will be Professionalism. The seminar will be followed by a reception. Don't miss this opportunity to earn an hour of ethics credit and to socialize with the members of some of our other local bar associations. See you there!

Legislative Committee

The Legislative Committee is proud to announce that the following persons have agreed to serve on the Committee for 2003-2004: Ashley Beuttel (chair), Laura T. Aldridge, Addlyn Brugger, Rachel Finn, Kari Lou Frank, Deanna H. Hathaway, Katja H. Hill, Lisa Taylor Hudson, Kiva Bland Pierce, Sharon Choi Stuart and Jennifer Jo West. Please let the Committee know areas of legislation which are important to our members so that we can be sure to include them in our annual legislative report. You may contact Ashley at 343-5032.

Mark your calendars today for the 2004 Legislative Luncheon which will be held April 7, 2004.

2003-2004 MRWBA Board of Directors

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343-4372 or sgrana@cantorarkema.com

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CLE, Vanessa L. Jones
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CLE, Ann Berkebile
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360-7520 or lawyerhart@aol.com

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586-0764 or kathyjeanhood@aol.com

2003 Women of Achievement Award

The Awards Committee is seeking nominations for the Annual Women of Achievement Award that recognizes women who exemplify legal professionalism. As you know, last year's recipient were Sharon England and Carolyn Lavecchia. We will be presenting the award at the annual awards luncheon on Wednesday, December 3, 2003. Please help the Awards Committee to find and recognize a lawyer who is deserving of this tribute.

The criteria for nomination and the nomination form are included in this newsletter.

The deadline for nomination is Friday, October 31, 2003 at 5:00 p.m.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Kimberlee Harris Ramsey at 697-5116 or kramsey@fgb.com.

Did you miss last month's luncheon?
Our speaker was Virginia State Bar
President, Jeannie Dahnk.



Pictured above: Jeannie Dahnk



Pictured above (l to r): Clair Harrington, Jeannie Dahnk, Leslie Haley, and Andrea Harlow

MRWBA --- Past Award Recipients

- 2002 Sharon England
Carolyn Lavecchia
- 2001 Darrel Tillar Mason
- 2000 Mary R. Spain
- 1999 Barbara Ann Williams
- 1998 Virginia H. Hackney
Barbara L. Hulburt
- 1997 Virginia S. Duvall
- 1996 Patricia M. Schwarzschild
Anne Marie Whittemore
- 1995 The Honorable Jean W. Cunningham
The Honorable Anne B. Holton
Linda F. Riggsby
The Honorable Beverly W. Snukals
- 1994 Claire G. Cardwell
The Honorable Bonnie C. Davis
The Honorable Elizabeth B. Lacy
Julie D. McClellan
Sharon Maitland Moon
The Honorable Kimberly B. O'Donnell
Virginia W. Powell
Debra J. Prillaman
Karen A. Raschke



The Metropolitan Richmond Women's Bar Association ("MRWBA") seeks each year to promote the stature of women in the community and to recognize those women who exemplify legal professionalism.

I. Awards Criteria:

Each nominee shall:

1. be a member of the Virginia State Bar. A nominee who is disabled or unable to practice or deceased will be considered as long as the nominee met the criteria prior to becoming disabled or deceased;
2. have earned the respect of the community at large for her professional and/or civic contributions;
3. have made significant contributions to the legal profession and to the community;
4. have at least five (5) years of professional experience as an attorney. If less than five years, the nominator should provide specific examples of exceptional circumstances;
5. have performed charitable work, *pro bono* legal services and/or any other activities of note that serve to promote the purposes of the MRWBA. (Purposes of the MRWBA are listed below.) However, it is not required that a recipient of the MRWBA Women of Achievement Award be involved in charitable active ties;
6. have provided assistance to other women attorneys, particularly as a mentor; and
7. have demonstrated leadership skills.

II. Nomination Package Requirements:

The nomination package must include the following:

1. a completed nomination form;
2. an updated, descriptive resume;
3. at least two (2) statements or letters of support for the nominee; and
4. a nominator statement describing the nominee's contributions to the stature of women in the legal profession.

III. Deadline:

All nomination packages must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, October 31, 2003 by:

Kimberlee Harris Ramsey, Esquire
Chair, MRWBA Awards Committee
Florance, Gordon and Brown
800 Mutual Building
909 East Main Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219
(804) 697-5116, kramsey@fgb.com

IV. Purpose of the MRWBA

The purposes of the Association as set forth in the Articles of Incorporation follow:

1. To improve the professional competence of area lawyers, including its members, through educational and other means;
2. To promote understanding and appropriate reform in the law; judicial procedure and the science of jurisprudence generally;
3. To preserve and promote the honor and integrity of the legal profession;
4. To support and enhance personal satisfaction and professional advancement of women in the legal profession and in the judiciary;
5. To promote collegiality among women in the legal profession;
6. To facilitate and improve the administration of justice;
7. To promote the delivery of legal services to the entire community and to foster civic and community service;
8. To promote an increased understanding by the public of the legal system;
9. To inform and stimulate debate among the members of the Association on legal and social issues affecting the legal profession;
10. To undertake any other matters necessary or proper to the operation of a voluntary Bar Association; and
11. To do all things necessary or desirable to carry out the foregoing purposes.

METROPOLITAN RICHMOND WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION

**TENTH ANNUAL WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS
NOMINATION FORM**

Nominee's name: _____
Employer: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ Zip Code: _____
Telephone: _____ Email: _____
Years in Practice: _____
Practice Area(s): _____
Nominated by: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ Zip Code: _____
Telephone: _____ Email: _____
Affiliation with Nominee: _____
Signature: _____

1. Describe the Nominee's significant professional and civic contributions in the following areas if applicable:

- a. Professional achievements:
- b. Bar activities, committees, etc.:
- c. Articles, publications, lectures, etc.:
- d. Additional comments:

2. Describe the Nominee's service to the legal profession and the community in the following areas, as applicable:

- a. *Pro Bono* legal services:
- b. Civic Activities, volunteer work, etc.:
- c. Additional comments:

3. Describe the Nominee's contributions to the stature of women in the legal profession:

Nominations must be received by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, October 31, 2003 to be considered.

Nominations must include an updated, descriptive resume for the Nominee and at least two (2) statements or letters of support for the Nominee.

Send Completed Nomination Forms to:
Kimberlee Harris Ramsey, Esquire
Chair, MRWBA Awards Committee
Florance, Gordon and Brown
800 Mutual Building
909 East Main Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219
(804) 697-5116, kramsey@fgb.com



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Mark Your Calendar

December 3, 2003 – Holiday Awards Luncheon

January 7, 2004 – Luncheon: “Financial Management”

February 4, 2004— Luncheon: 30th Anniversary
Celebration

March 3, 2004— Luncheon: Denton Kump of Poesis and
Susie Galvez of Face Works Day Spa

1st Wednesdays of the month
12:30 p.m. Capital Club

Newsletter Items?

Send to Tracy Spencer
by fax at 804-762-9654 or by email
tspencer@barnesbatzli.com
Next Deadline: November 14

Copying & mailing provided by
IKON Office Solutions.
(804) 644-1500



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