



September 2003
Newsletter Sponsored by Smith Barney CitiGroup

LUNCHEON PROGRAM:
WHAT'S THE *FEAR FACTOR* IN YOUR LAW PRACTICE?
DATE: Wednesday, September 10th

Wendy Inge and Jill Wells, both risk management attorneys for PROLEGIA, will present ONE HOUR of ETHICS CLE on how to avoid legal malpractice claims and ethics complaints. This seminar features video dramatizations of attorney-client scenarios that illustrate a number of ethics and malpractice pitfalls that plague any law practice. Following the video vignettes will be a discussion of the mistakes that attorneys can make and practical advice on what systems, procedures and techniques can be put in place to help prevent similar situations and malpractice claims from occurring in your own firm. Come join us or be afraid, be very afraid....

(Please note: This CLE is a portion of the PROLEGIA seminar presented throughout Virginia in April and May, 2003. Duplicate CLE credit cannot be given.)

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

COST: \$20.00 for members
\$25.00 for non-members

RSVP by September 8: 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

Welcome to your 2003-2004 MRWBA Year! Remember the focus this year is "Women in Business" and we are hoping to present lunch programs reflective of this theme. In this day and age, you are not just a lawyer, but a "businesswoman" as well. Make the time to be an active member of the MRWBA. You can benefit both personally and professionally. Mark your calendar now for the lunch programs through the end of the year so you don't miss out!

We have a great September program to kick off the new year, featuring PROLEGIA. Take note - this is the second Tuesday of the month as we wanted to ensure that everyone had time to recover from their Labor Day weekend festivities. Enjoy a wonderful lunch at our favorite spot, catch up on summer vacation stories with old friends, network with your legal colleagues, and get CLE credit - all at the same time! As the program title instructs us - "do not be afraid" - come join us and learn how to avoid legal malpractice and ethical complaints. Then, take your new found wealth back to your firm and pass the information along to your colleagues.

Now is also the time to get to know your MRWBA Board. The Board list with all contact information is found in this newsletter. If you have any program ideas for future lunch meetings, contact Leslie or Andrea. CLE ideas, contact Vanessa or Ann. If you are interested in serving as a mentor or would like to receive some assistance as a mentee, contact Mary. Wish to nominate someone for our Women of Achievement Award or interested in serving on the committee, contact Kim Ramsey or Renata. Need a membership application for a new associate or friend, contact Kim Daniel. Need a Domestic Violence pamphlet or wish to volunteer your legal services one night at Flagler Home, contact Tara or Catherine. Interested in legislative issues or news of the General Assembly, contact Ashley. Aware of a new judicial opening or interested in becoming a judge, contact Lisa. Any other questions, suggestions, ideas or complaints, contact Clair, Jill, Julie, Anne Marie, Karen or me. This is *your* Bar organization and we are here to serve your needs. Contact us and let us know how we can help you!

P.S. If you have not completed your new membership application and paid your dues, please take a moment now to take care of that. Not only will you save money at the September lunch meeting, but you will also be properly listed in the MRWBA roster.

2003-2004 MRWBA Board of Directors

Officers

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

President-elect, Clair A. Harrington
288-3600 or harrington@mgm-law.com

Vice President, R. Jill Wells
282-8081 or jwells@prolegia.com

Secretary/Historian, Julie Whitlock
367-8079, or dmvjxw@dmv.state.va.us

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

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

Committee Chairs

Awards, Kim Ramsey
697-5116 or kramsey@fgb.com

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

CLE, Vanessa L. Jones
796-1000 or vjones@barnesbatzli.com

CLE, Ann Berkebile
367-0652 or Alice.Berkebile@vwc.state.va.us

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

Judicial Nominations, Lisa Taylor Hudson
783-7234 or lhudson@sandsanderson.com

Legislative, Ashley C. Beuttel
343-5032 or abeuttel@woodsrogers.com

Membership, Kim Daniel
697-1484 or kim.daniel@troutmansanders.com

Programs, Leslie Haley
775-0549 or haley@vsb.org

Programs, Andrea J. Harlow
771-5770 or ajharlow@kaufcan.com

PR/Newsletter, Tracy H. Spencer
762-9500 or tspencer@barnesbatzli.com

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

Public Service, Catherine Crooks Hill
786-8199 or cchill@oag.state.va.us

Special Projects & Mentorship, Mary K. Hart
360-7520 or lawyerhart@aol.com

Admin. Assistant, Virginia Hundley
794-7654 or vahundley@aol.com



Some of the 2003-2004 Board Members: (1st row, l-r) Carolyn White, Ashley Beuttel, Andrea Harlow, Vanessa Jones. (2nd row, l-r) Leslie Haley, Catherine Hill, Mary Hart, Ann Berkebile, Jill Wells, Clair Harrington. (3rd row, l-r) Stephanie Grana, Tara Casey, Anne Marie Cushmac, Karen Dunivan, Kim Ramsey, Tracy Spencer, Kim Daniel, Julie Whitlock. Not pictured: Renata Manzo and Lisa Taylor Hudson.

Committee Reports

Judicial Candidate Endorsement Committee

Greetings Membership and Judicial Candidate Endorsement Committee ("JCE") Members! We are ready to kick off a new bar year and I eagerly welcome your ideas and feedback on how to best serve the MRWBA in the judicial candidate endorsement process. Like Ruth Nathanson, the previous JCE chair, many of you have valuable experience to offer our committee and membership. I look forward to serving with you in the year ahead. Please drop me an email at lhudson@sandsanderson.com or call me at 783-7234 with your ideas.

In the coming week or two, I would also like to get together for an informal, brief "meet and greet" session after work, so we can exchange updated contact information and discuss how best to tackle our committee's deadlines on a tight fuse. You will be hearing more from me on that soon. Please keep a look out in your mail and/or email for more information. If you have some particular avoid dates for this "meet and greet" to pass along, I welcome those too. Thanks, Lisa Hudson, your new 2003-04 JCE Chair.

SmartConnect Committee

This is an ad hoc committee created to coordinate with the Richmond Women's Business Consortium. The committee is responsible for communicating RWBC events to the MRWBA and developing relationships with the RWBC and its member organizations for networking purposes. New members welcome. The first meeting of the new bar year will take place on September 5 at 12:30 pm. Please contact Clair Harrington at harrington@mgm-law.com or Mary Hart at lawyerhart@aol.com for more details.

LAWYER-PALOOZA

What: The Greater Richmond Bar Foundation will sponsor the second annual Lawyer Palooza featuring some of your favorite "lawyer bands" including the Legacy Bluegrass Band, the Captones, and the Members.

When: Friday, September 12, 2003 from 7:00 to 11:00 p.m.

Where: The ACCA Temple Activity Center, 1712 Belleview Avenue

Cost: Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door and include admission, beer, soft drinks and snacks.

Sponsors: Dave Jones & Associates Ltd.; Hunton & Williams; Prolegia; CantorArkema, P.C.; Hirschler Fleisher, P.C.; The McCammon Group; McGuire Woods, LLP; Troutman Sanders, LLP; Williams Mullen; Southern Title Insurance Corporation; Superior Document Services.

All proceeds will benefit the Greater Richmond Bar Foundation programs, including the Pro Bono Clearinghouse.

For tickets, information, and directions contact:
Carole Yeatts at 697-1489 or Lori Rinaldi at 527-3445.

Committee Reports cont.

Public Service Committee

The Public Service Committee needs you! And, your friends, too! The Public Service Committee coordinates MRWBA's award-winning service projects, including the annual publication of its domestic relations booklet and monthly curriculum nights at a women's shelter. In addition, this Committee notifies MRWBA's membership of volunteer opportunities throughout the greater Richmond area and organizes team support for events such as Making Strides Against Breast Cancer and the Central Virginia Food Bank's annual campaign.

To be successful in its endeavors, the Public Service Committee relies upon MRWBA's members to volunteer their time and energy. Currently, the Committee needs volunteers to serve as the Ad Hoc Project Coordinator or Domestic Relations Pamphlet Coordinator for the 2003-2004 bar year. The Ad Hoc Project Coordinator is responsible for organizing MRWBA's participation in a variety of service events throughout the year. The Domestic Relations Pamphlet Coordinator works closely with the current co-chairs in the publication and distribution of "Understanding Your Domestic Relations Rights in Virginia." If you are interested in joining this exciting team as a coordinator or committee member, please contact either Catherine Hill (cchill@oag.state.va.us) or Tara Casey (tara.casey@usdoj.gov) for more information.

YOU BELONG IN THE MRWBA

The MRWBA is a diverse group of women attorneys who practice throughout the metropolitan Richmond area, including the City of Richmond and the Counties of Chesterfield, Hanover and Henrico. We practice in large firms, medium firms and small firms. We practice in corporate law departments and in government agencies. We are associates, partners and counsel. We practice full time and part time. With a group this diverse, the MRWBA can offer a broad range of benefits to our members.

These benefits include:

Networking and Support
Monthly luncheon and newsletter
from September through May

Career Enhancement opportunities
CLE Programs
Public Service opportunities

Judicial Evaluation and Endorsements
Mentor Program
Legislative Monitoring

Congratulations to our Members

- Stephanie Grana on becoming a director at CantorArkema.
- Tracy Spencer for her new job at Barnes & Batzli, P.C.
- Aimee Clanton on the birth of her baby girl.
- Kim Daniel on being elected to the Junior League Board of Directors.



Award of Merit for the MRWBA

Legislative Chair Lisa Hudson accepts an Award of Merit from the Virginia State Bar on behalf of the MRWBA for the Association's 2003 Legislative Luncheon. Presenting the award is Ben DiMuro, VSB president, and Aubrey Rosser, past chair of the Conference of Local Bar Associations.

In Memoriam

Kristin Latshaw
(former MRWBA member)

MEMBERS' PRACTICE AREAS

Members are invited to participate in the MRWBA self-referral service posted on the public area of our website. This self-referral service allows members to indicate up to three primary practice areas and particular contact information. The web site indicates that the MRWBA is not endorsing the qualifications of any member to practice in the area.

Family Law / Juvenile
Wills / Trusts / Estates
Landlord / Tenant
Tax
Medical Malpractice
Bankruptcy / Collections
Elder Law

Employment / Employment Discrimination
Administration / Government
Construction
Personal Injury / Product Liability
Civil Rights
Social Security
Intellectual Property

Health Care
Real estate / Land use
Business / Corporate
Criminal Defense
Sexual Harassment
Workers Compensation
Legal Malpractice

For more information, visit our website at www.mrwba.org or look for sign-up sheets at a monthly luncheon.

Smith Barney

Seth Kaplan CFP*
Vice President - Investments
Portfolio Manager

1051 E. Cary Street Ste. 200
Richmond, Va 23219
804-780-3376

Personal Web Page:
**[http://www.fc.smithbarney.com/
kaplan_meybin](http://www.fc.smithbarney.com/kaplan_meybin)**

Mark Your Calendar for Membership Luncheons

September 10
What's the Fear Factor in Your Law Practice?

October 1
Jeannie Dahnk, Virginia State Bar President

November 5
Time Management & Leadership Skills

December 3 Holiday Awards Luncheon

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: September 12



P.O. Box 538
Richmond, VA 23218-0538