

Bar Year 2006-2007

September 2006

September Luncheon Featuring Lucy Meade of Richmond Renaissance



Metropolitan Richmond Women's Bar Association

SEPTEMBER 2006
VOLUME 1

Please join us on
Wednesday, September 13, 2006, at 12:30 p.m.

at the Bull & Bear Club, as we kick-off the 2005-2006 bar year with a special luncheon featuring Lucy Meade of Richmond Renaissance.

Ms. Meade will discuss the important role the Richmond Renaissance is playing in increasing the vitality of the City of Richmond, in particular the down-

town area, through economic development. Come join us and get a glimpse into the Richmond Renaissance's plans for the redevelopment and beautification of our City! For a preview, check out

Richmond Renaissance's website at www.richmondrenaissance.org.

The luncheon will cost \$17.00 for MRWBA members and \$20.00 for non-members.

Please mail advanced payments to:

MRWBA, P.O. Box 538,
Richmond, Virginia
23218-0538.

Reservations must be made by **Friday, September 8, 2006**, to:

Michelle Welch at 786-7760 or mwelch@oag.state.va.us.



LUNCHEON NOTICE

All luncheon reservations must be made by the deadline specified. 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. The MRWBA reserves the right to charge for the luncheon if you do not attend the luncheon after making a reservation and do not cancel prior to the deadline. If you have made

a reservation and cannot attend the luncheon, you may substitute someone in your place. However, you (or your substitution) must advise Michelle Welch at 786-7760 or mwelch@oag.state.va.us of such substitution prior to the luncheon.

Inside this issue:	
President's Message	2
Membership	3
MRWBA Receives Two Awards	4
Legislative Committee	4
New Members to MRWBA Families	4
Awards Committee	5
Mentorship Committee	5
New President for VSB	6
Public Service Committee	6



President's Message



Honor Among Women

Welcome to the 2006-2007 bar year! We have a great year ahead of us beginning with our first luncheon on Wednesday, September 13 at 12:30 p.m. at the Bull & Bear Club. Special thanks to Programs Chairs Jayne Pemberton and Sakina Paige for their hard work this summer on our fall line-up which begins with a presentation by Lucy Meade of Richmond Renaissance regarding ongoing efforts to revitalize our beautiful city.

Recently, I had the pleasure of watching my soon-to-be five year-old daughter jump into the pool and swim unassisted for the first time. The sheer joy on her face was a good reminder of the excitement that we feel when trying something new. I hope you will jump into the pool with us this year by joining one of our committees or becoming involved in one of our projects.

As you may know, I chose "Honor among Women" as our theme this year. The MRWBA has much to be proud of, beginning with our talented Board. With their help, I look forward to a successful and productive year. I hope you will join us as we begin a year-long tribute to the women who have paved the way for us, the pioneers, the leaders, those we admire and who inspire us in all that we do. I would like to start by thanking my predecessor, Jill Wells Nunnally, for her hard work last year and for her support this summer. We are thankful for her efforts on behalf of the MRWBA and wish her well in her new role as mother of two month-old Wells McKee.

I would also like to thank Anne Marie Cushmac, who stepped down this year to begin a new career in Washington as Counsel to the Assistant Attorney General for the Antitrust Division with the U.S. Department of Justice. While we miss Anne Marie very much, we wish her continued success in her new job and we look forward to welcoming her back whenever she is in Richmond.

Finally, I would like to congratulate Karen Gould on becoming the 2006-07 President of the Virginia State Bar. A longtime member of the MRWBA, Karen is only the third woman to be President of the Virginia State Bar. Congratulations Karen on this great achievement!

If you have not already done so, please renew your membership with the MRWBA. The cost is just \$60 and the rewards are great. Please go to our website at www.mrwba.org to download an application if you have not yet received one from us. I look forward to seeing you at the Bull & Bear on September 13.

Catherine Crooks Hill
MRWBA President (2006-2007)

~MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE~

Membership in the MRWBA provides a gateway to professional and personal growth through a variety of programs, including monthly luncheons, CLEs, public service, networking opportunities and more!



As a **MEMBER** of the MRWBA, you will be able to attend the monthly luncheons at the membership rate of \$17 !!!!! (\$20 for non-members)

Bring a guest to the September 13th luncheon and you could win a \$25 gift certificate to*

P. F. CHANGS

** your name will be entered into a raffle at the luncheon if your guest signs up and pays to be a member of the MRWBA on the day of the luncheon.*





MRWBA President Catherine Crooks Hill and MRWBA President-Elect Lesley Haley Accept the CLBA Awards on Behalf of MRWBA



Phil Anderson, 2005-2006 Virginia State Bar President, Leslie Haley, Catherine Crooks Hill, and Janet Palmer, 2005-2006 Chair of the Conference of Local Bar Associations (CLBA).

The MRWBA received the Virginia State Bar Conference of Local Bar Associations' Award of Merit for our online voting for Judicial Candidate Endorsement and the Certificate of Achievement for our Annual Legislative Luncheon. The awards were presented during the VSB annual meeting in June to MRWBA President and President-elect Catherine Crooks Hill and Lesley Haley.

Legislative Committee ~ Sharon Stuart, Chairperson

The Virginia State Bar Conference of Local Bar Associations awarded the Legislative Committee with a Certificate of Achievement for its 2006 Annual Legislative Luncheon and Panel Presentation. The 2006 Legislative Luncheon was a success thanks to the hard work of last year's chairperson Kiva Pierce, the legislative committee, and its highly-esteemed presenters: Senators Ryan McDougle and Walter Stosch, and Delegates Rosalyn Dance, Riley Ingram, Jennifer McClellan, Donald McEachin, Katherine Waddell, John Watkins, and Samuel Nixon, Jr.

The Legislative committee would like to extend a warm thank you to the General Assembly members, mentioned above, for sharing their time and stories with the MRWBA.

I am excited to chair this year's Legislative Committee and look forward to working with all of you. We will be monitoring the General Assembly's actions to report any important developments during the upcoming year. If this sounds interesting to you, please consider joining the legislative committee this year by contacting Sharon at 358-9900 or sstuart@bolemanlaw.com.

MRWBA Board Members Experience the Gift of Life

To Past President Jill Wells Nunnally; Wells McKee Nunnally. Wells was born July 1, 2006 at 2:07 a.m. He weighed 8 lbs. 4 oz., and measured 21.5 inches long.

To former Legislative Chair Kiva Pierce; Amelia Jeanne Pierce. Amelia was born June 27, 2006 at 2:47 p.m. She

weighed 8 lbs. 13.5 oz., and measured 21 inches long.

To former President Carole Yeatts Timberlake; Samuel Archer Timberlake. Samuel was born May 23, 2006 at 5:41 a.m. He weighed 5 lbs. 2 oz. and measured 18.5 inches long.





Awards Committee ~ Jennifer Gobble; Chairperson

The awards committee is gearing up for a busy year and needs your help!

There are several volunteer opportunities available. Please contact Jennifer Gobble at jgobble@oag.state.va.us or 786-7364, if you are interested in serving on any of the following committees:

- Planning Committee (decorations, coordinating, etc.) for the December Holiday Awards luncheon.

- Election Committee members to help select this year's Women Of Achievement Award recipient.
- Nomination Committee members to help select MRWBA nominations for bar association and civic awards - these awards present great opportunities for the MRWBA to have a voice in the community and to nominate some of our own members who deserve recognition.

Save the Dates!
The Holiday Awards Luncheon is scheduled for December 6, 2006. The Awards Committee will be seeking nominations for the annual Women of Achievement Award in the near future. The deadline for nominations is November 1, 2006. More information to follow.

Mentorship Committee ~ Ali Silva Fannon, Chairperson

MRWBA members have two opportunities for experiencing the benefits of mentorship: attorney-law student and attorney-attorney. Whether you are new to the practice of law or a seasoned attorney, we hope that you will participate in one (or both!) of these mentorship programs.

Our award-winning student mentorship program with student members in the University of Richmond's Women's Law Student Association ("WLSA") is expanding this year to offer interested female law students at William and Mary Law School an opportunity for mentor pairing. Being a

mentor to a law student will not require a lot of your time (student schedules are busy too!). So please consider sharing your experiences as a female attorney in the metropolitan Richmond area with an interested student at one of these schools. All members regardless of experience are encouraged to participate.

If you are new to the practice of law (2 years or less), we hope you will take advantage of having a more experienced fellow MRWBA attorney be your mentor. We

encourage all members with 5 years or more of legal experience to volunteer to be a mentor to one of these new attorneys.

Whether you are new to the practice of law or a seasoned attorney . . .

For either program, we have a short application for you to fill out. Please contact Ali at 646-6642 or silvaa@ci.richmond.va.us for more information and/or the application.

SAVE THE DATE!

The MRWBA'S October luncheon will be at 12:30 p.m. on October 4, 2006 at the Bull & Bear.



Virginia State Bar Swears In New President, Karen Gould

The MRWBA would like to extend a warm *welcome* and a *congratulations* to **Karen Gould**, the newest president of the Virginia State Bar.

Karen Gould officially began her presidency of the Virginia State Bar during the annual conference in June.

Public Service Committee ~ Chairperson, Margaret Hardy

For over a decade, the MRWBA has published a 40-page booklet entitled "Understanding Your Domestic Relations Rights in Virginia." This award-winning booklet is distributed across Virginia, free of charge, to social service agencies, law enforcement agencies, courts, women's shelters, and other public service providers. Updates for the 2006-2007

edition have been completed and printing will soon begin. In order to offset the cost of providing this valuable resource, we accept limited advertising for inclusion in the booklet and tax-deductible donations. This year, donors providing \$150 in support will be listed in the booklet as friends; donors providing \$300 in support will be listed in the booklet as advocates.

If you would like to participate in the publication and distribution of the booklet, or if you or your firm would be interested in purchasing advertising space or making a donation in any amount, please contact Margaret F. Hardy, Public Service Committee Co-chair at 783-7277 or mhardy@sandsanderson.com

Public Service ~ Habitat for Humanity

Members and friends of the MRWBA participated in a WomenBuild project for Habitat for Humanity on May 13, 2006, sponsored by the Public Service Committee. We had a great turn-out and contributed both labor and money for a very worthwhile cause.

The Public Service Committee is busy planning activities for the coming year, including presentations at TJ High School

as part of our ongoing partnership with the school, participation in the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk, and more. If you are interested in becoming involved with the Public Service Committee, please contact Jennifer McLemore at 697-4129 or jmclmore@cblaw.com or Margaret Hardy at 783-7277 or mhardy@sandsanderson.com.



**SEPTEMBER 2006
VOLUME 1**

For Newsletter Questions or Comments Contact:

**Jackie W. Sharman, Esquire
Pagano & Associates, P.C.
3991 E. Williamsburg Road
Sandston, Virginia 23150
804-328-6988**

**We're on the Web!
www.MRWBA.org**



Providing dispute resolution services to individuals, businesses
and courts in Central Virginia since 1996.

MEDIATION
ARBITRATION
ADR TRAINING

*FAMILY AND CIVIL MATTERS
PRIVATE AND COURT-REFERRED CASES*

All mediators and trainers are certified by the
Supreme Court of Virginia

Commonwealth Mediation Group Toll-free 877-377-2780
2108 W. Laburnum Ave, Ste 220 Phone (804) 254 2664
Richmond, Virginia 23227 Fax (804) 254 2101

