

Subject:

FW: February MRWBA Newsletter - Spring Programs



## Metro Richmond Women's Bar Association Newsletter

February 2012



Richmond Skyline by [Jeff Pittman](#)



Have you seen the new MRWBA website?  
Go to [www.MRWBA.org](http://www.MRWBA.org)

### MRWBA February Luncheon: Animal Welfare Advocacy & Legislation



Wednesday, February 1, 2012 at 12:30 p.m.  
Willow Oaks Country Club  
*1.0 hour of CLE credit pending*

Presented by:

- Laura Donahue, Virginia State Director for the Humane Society of the United States
- Virginia Kilmer, President of the Virginia Federation of Humane Societies
- Robin Starr, Chief Executive Officer of the Richmond SPCA
- Michelle Welch, Assistant Attorney General and recipient of the Animal Welfare Institute's 2011 Schweitzer Award
- Lynne Rhode, Troutman Sanders, legislative liaison for Henrico Humane Society

[Register Now](#)

Deadline to register is Friday, January 27 at 5:00 pm. Click on the link above to register. To join the waiting list after registration closes, [email Alison Roussy](#) or call (804) 855-9090.

#### In This Issue

[February Luncheon Registration](#)

[President's Message](#)

[February sponsor](#)

[Calendar of Events](#)

[Meet our New Members](#)

[Contact Info](#)

[MRWBA on Facebook & LinkedIn](#)

[Spring On Campus Interviews](#)

#### Contact MRWBA

P.O. Box 3945  
Richmond, VA 23235  
[MRWBA Website](#)

While the MRWBA Website is under construction, please join the MRWBA Facebook and LinkedIn pages for regular updates.

[Find us on Facebook](#)

[View our profile on LinkedIn](#)

#### 2011-2012 Board

Ali Fannon - President  
Sakina Paige - President-Elect

## President's Message

The second half of our bar year is underway, and we have exciting programs and events on the horizon, so plan on joining us.

The General Assembly is in session. The smell of new legislation is in the air! Whether your practice brings you daily to subcommittees or you cannot name your representative, laws and their interpretation is our business no matter how you slice it. With that in mind, the MRWBA is hosting two programs shining a light on the legislative process.



On February 1st, we will host a panel of the most knowledgeable animal rights advocates to discuss the laws and the lobbying process (CLE pending). On April 4th, we will host our annual Legislative luncheon with our local legislators providing keen insight into bills that mattered to them and how the process works from the inside view (1.0 CLE).

For all of you who bring home the bacon, but wish frying it up in the pan was easier (and tastier!), we have lined up a program on March 7th focused on healthy, local dinner options we can all cook.

As always, consider inviting your student mentee to our programs, but definitely plan on a fun night with them on April 5th, when we have our annual Spring Mentorship dinner and cocktails.

Ali Fannon  
President 2011-2012  
[Contact Ali by email](#)

Thanks to our Sponsor!

Jayne Pemberton - Past President  
Colleen Quinn - Vice President  
Sharon Stuart - Treasurer  
Michelle Welch - Secretary  
Alison Roussy - Admin Assistant

Melanie Friend - Awards  
Jennifer Fox - CLE  
Carole Timberlake - Communications  
Barbara Saunders - Finance  
Margaret Hardy - Judicial Endorsement  
Beverly Covington - Legislative  
Stinson Mundy - Membership  
Melissa Van Zile - Mentorship  
Kimberly Skiba and Robin McVoy - Programs  
Jackie Sharman and Jennifer Lattimore - Public Service

### Connect with MRWBA and our Members

Thank you to all who attended the December Holiday Luncheon and Women of Achievement Award presentation.

Like the [MRWBA Facebook page](#) to see the photo gallery from this and other MRWBA events. .



Join the MRWBA LinkedIn Group to connect with the professional profiles of other MRWBA members, share news and status updates, and request and share referrals!



Are you a Small or Mid-Size Firm? Sign up for Spring Interview Program

The law schools at the College of



**DeAnn F. Pangburn**  
Vice President  
Relationship Manager

901 E. Cary Street  
Suite 1700  
Richmond, Virginia 23219

804.433.2480  
dpangburn@xenithbank.com

Xenith was established in 2009 as an independent, well-capitalized bank, headquartered in Richmond. We are focused on Virginia businesses, private banking and select retail markets with offices in Richmond, Northern Virginia and Suffolk. Xenith is dedicated to serving law firms of all sizes with services to help grow and manage your practice.

### MRWBA Events

March Luncheon - Healthy Cooking  
Wednesday, March 7, 2012  
12:30 p.m. at Willow Oaks  
[Click here to register online](#)

April Luncheon - Annual Legislative Luncheon  
Wednesday, March 7, 2012  
12:30 p.m. at Willow Oaks  
[Click here to register online](#)

### Other Events

Enterprising Women of Excellence (EWE) Awards

William & Mary, the University of Virginia, Washington and Lee University, and the University of Richmond invite you to participate in the Commonwealth Law School Consortium Spring Interview Program, in Richmond on Friday, March 23, 2012.

The program will enable you to interview second-year law students for summer law clerk positions, and May 2012 graduates for entry-level positions with your law firm.

Please consider the significant advantages of participating in the program:

- \* The program is free; there is no registration fee;
- \* You may pre-screen resumes, allowing you to select only those candidates you want to interview;
- \* The law school career offices will prepare an interview schedule which we will provide to you prior to the interview program;
- \* You may efficiently interview a number of qualified candidates at one time in one place;
- \* Lunch will be provided to participating employers!

To register, [click here for the spring interview program](#)

Nominations due January 31st  
EWE Awards honor women in 5 categories:

- \* Rising Star [Nominate Here](#)
- \* Entrepreneur of the Year [Nominate Here](#)
- \* Student Entrepreneur of the Year [Nominate Here](#)
- \* Community Leader [Nominate Here](#)
- \* NAWBO Member of the Year [Nominate Here](#)

NAWBO Luncheon - Mind, Body and Business  
With Madge Zacharias of the Zacharias Ganey Institute  
Tuesday, February 14, 2012  
11:00 a.m. at Willow Oaks  
[Click here to register online](#)

EWE Awards Dinner  
Thursday, March 22, 2012  
5:30 p.m. at the Omni Richmond Hotel  
[Click here for reservation and sponsorship information](#)

[website](#) and fill out the registration form. If you have summer or entry-level positions but cannot attend the interview program, please complete the registration form, and resumes will be forwarded to you for consideration.

Please contact any of the law school career offices if you have questions. We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you in Richmond on March 23.

Sincerely, Susan Atkinson, Esq.  
Director of Career Services

## New Member Profiles

Please introduce yourself to a few of our newest members...

### Joanna L. Suyes

Marks & Harrison, P. C., Associate  
University of Richmond, 2007  
[Contact Joanna by email](#)



*What did you do before law school?*

I was a paralegal for Marks & Harrison. I also got an M.Div. and graduated from seminary during that time.

*Why did you become a lawyer?*

Two reasons: I was a paralegal for 15 years and figured it couldn't be all that much different being the lawyer (wrong!). Second, I enjoy helping people. Being a lawyer combines my pastoral care training with my paralegal background. I've always said that the class that has helped me most as a lawyer was my pastoral counseling class from seminary.

*What was your favorite class in college or law school?* My favorite class in college was a P.E. class called Adventure Games - we did high ropes courses, trust falls, zip lines across Lake Matoaka, that kind of thing. In law school it probably was a First Amendment class I took under Dean Rod Smolla.

*What has been your biggest challenge since law school?*

Dealing with the stress of being the person the buck stops with and making decisions about case strategy.

*If you hadn't become a lawyer, what other career would you have pursued?*

I probably would have gone to cooking school and become a chef.

*What was your New Year's resolution?*

Stop drinking Mountain Dew - I'm almost there!

*What are your vacation plans for 2012?* Mexico with my best friends.

Tell us something about yourself that is not on your resume.  
I can cross my eyes one at a time.

## Miriam Airington

Kurylo, Strickland, Airington & Gold, PLC, Partner  
University of Miami School of Law, Class of 2009

[Contact Miriam by email](#)

*What was your favorite class in college or law school?*

Criminal law and procedure and constitutional law were the most engaging courses for me. I took a wonderful course on juvenile law that really influenced me.

*Why did you join the MRWBA?*

To connect with other women attorneys in the Richmond area.

*If you hadn't become a lawyer, what other career would you have pursued?*

The only other career I can see myself in is journalism, perhaps as travel writer. I love to travel and write.

*What do you like to do in your free time?*

Lately I have been exploring Richmond more - visiting museums and trying new restaurants.

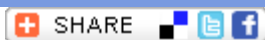
*What are your vacation plans for 2012?*

We are celebrating New Years in Portugal, and visiting Italy and Greece in the spring. My husband has a milestone birthday this summer, so we are planning a trip to Boston to celebrate.

*Tell us about your family.* I live in Chesterfield with my husband Ross.

In other news...

Chesterfield Juvenile & Domestic Relations Court welcomes  
new clerk Wendy S. Hughes



[Forward email](#)



Try it FREE today.

This email was sent to [carole@cytconsulting.com](mailto:carole@cytconsulting.com) by [carole@cytconsulting.com](mailto:carole@cytconsulting.com) | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).  
Metro Richmond Women's Bar Association | P.O. Box 3945 | Richmond | VA | 23235