

Subject:

FW: November MRWBA Newsletter - Public service luncheon and lots of new members



## Metro Richmond Women's Bar Association Newsletter

November 2011



Richmond Skyline by [Jeff Pittman](#)



### MRWBA November Luncheon Meeting - Public Service Luncheon Featuring CARITAS

#### [Register Now](#)



Wednesday, November 2, 2011 at 12:30 p.m.  
Willow Oaks Country Club

Join us for our annual luncheon focused on the public service projects of MRWBA and introducing our 2011-12 public service partner CARITAS.

Please bring with you to the lunch a small donation of new or gently used household items to assist families experiencing a housing crisis.

CARITAS provides emergency shelter, furniture and home furnishings, and job preparation for homeless adults and families. No other emergency shelter in Central Virginia can accept families with fathers, families with more than three children, or families with adolescent males. No other emergency shelter can care for over 1,000 people annually, due to the work of the 15,000 volunteers and 155 host congregations who open their doors each week. For more information about CARITAS, [click here](#).

Deadline to register is Monday, October 31 at 10:00 am. Click on the link above to register. To join the waiting list after registration closes, [email Alison Roussy](#).

CARITAS is in most desperate need of the following items at this time, most if not all of which you can hopefully find in your own home already: bed linens, towels/washcloths, dishes/flatware, pots/pans, lamps, pillows, small appliances and cleaning supplies. CARITAS is unable to accept clothes, toys, books and baby items.

CARITAS will have a box truck parked outside the Country Club to collect your donations on your way into the luncheon. Please direct any questions to [Jennifer Lattimore by email](#).

### President's Message

Thanks to everyone for making October a wonderful month for the MRWBA! A quick recap of our varied offerings for those who missed out:

For our luncheon on October 5th, Colleen Quinn presented a thought-provoking CLE on alternative reproductive technologies and the (very few!) laws and regulations governing them. During the afternoon of October 19th, Tom Spahn from McGuire Woods provided our members with a two-hour Ethics CLE seminar. Before work on October 26th, members gathered for coffee and bagels with the UR Law Dean, Wendy Perdue, to chat and discuss the history and future of legal



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### Join the MRWBA (or Renew)

To renew your membership or join: [Download the application by clicking here](#). This November newsletter will be the last one sent to non-members. Don't miss out on program and CLE invitations and other important information!

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

Melanie Friend - Awards


career paths and unique consideration facing women in all work settings. Three events, three different time slots, and all well-attended!

The MRWBA is working hard to provide opportunities that enhance your practice and bring a unique perspective to the issues you face in your career and home life. This month, we continue the Equilibrium theme by adding a new twist to the annual Public Service luncheon. Not only will you learn about our featured charity, CARITAS, and its amazing successes in the homeless service arena, and the many opportunities to volunteer at this organization. You will also learn about general volunteerism considerations from HandsOn Greater Richmond. Thinking about joining a nonprofit Board? Or just a committee? Learn tips on how to choose the right volunteer experience for your life schedule.

As Dean Perdue referenced from the Harvard Business Journal (June 2011), teams with more women have a higher collective IQ. So please [join/renew your membership](#) with the MRWBA, get involved in the MRWBA Committees and come to our future events...it just might be the smartest thing you did all week.

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

Thanks to our Sponsor!



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### MRWBA Public Service Event for CARITAS - Nov. 19

Please mark your calendars for Saturday, November 19 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and join us for our Fall Public Service event at the CARITAS Furniture Bank at 1125 East Commerce Road.

This will be a great opportunity to donate your time while getting to know fellow members of the MRWBA in a relaxed setting. Volunteers are needed to sort home furnishings. Even strap on some power tools and assemble furniture. Hope to see you there!

Contact Jennifer Lattimore at (804) 788-7756 or [by email](#) for more information or to make donations.

[Click here to Register.](#)

### Women of Achievement Award Nominations

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

### Welcome to New MRWBA Members

Allison Carroll  
Allison Pouille Klaiber  
Amy Williams  
April Cain  
Betty Cabell Brogan  
C. Scott McMullan  
Carrie Newton  
Catherine Mika  
Dawn DeBoer  
Denise Carl  
Devika Daivs  
Eileen Alamante  
Elizabeth Miller  
Elizabeth Myers  
Emily Hedrick  
Faith Alejandro  
Jackie Nichols  
Jennifer Rosen  
Jessica McGough  
Jodi Simopoulos  
Judith O'Brien  
Julie McConnell  
Katherine Womack  
Laura Sheehan  
Leslie Allen  
Madeline Kramer  
Marin Hoplamazian  
Meg Burruss  
Melissa Little  
Naureen Hyder  
P.J. Turner  
Player Michelson  
Sarah Molenkamp  
Sarah Warren Beverly  
Shannon Sinclair  
Sharon Ten  
Stacy Lee  
Susan Atkinson

To share news about awards and recognitions, job changes, or babies and marriages, contact Carole Timberlake [by email](#).

### Connect with MRWBA and our Members

Make sure to connect with the MRWBA on Facebook to receive news and events updates. Also don't miss our photo gallery -- including pictures from the [September luncheon with Tim Kaine](#).



Join the MRWBA LinkedIn Group to connect with the professional profiles of other

## due November 1

The MRWBA seeks each year to promote the stature of women in the community and to recognize those women who exemplify legal professionalism. Please consider potential nominees for the 2011 Women of Achievement Award.

[Click here for the Women of Achievement nomination form.](#)

Any MRWBA member is eligible with 5 or more years of practice who has earned the respect of the community at large for her professional and/or civic contributions.

[Click here for complete nomination criteria and submission requirements and a list of past recipients.](#)

The recipient, who will join a distinguished list of past honorees, will be recognized at our annual luncheon on Wednesday, Dec. 7th at 12:30 p.m. at Willow Oaks.

For more information, please contact Melanie Friend at (804) 320-9100 or [mfriend@cowangates.com](mailto:mfriend@cowangates.com).

## Domestic Relations Booklet: Espanol

Hola, mujeres! Hello Ladies! The Domestic Relations Pamphlet was published last year and, for the first time, the MRWBA published the Spanish version of the domestic relation pamphlet. Unfortunately, due to a down turn in funding, the Spanish version of the DRP is in JEOPARDY.

If you know a group, association, or organization that you believe will benefit from the Spanish version of the DRP, please encourage them to sponsor the booklet. Regretfully, without additional funding, the Spanish version of the DRP will cease publication. Contact Jackie Sharman at (804) 285-7000 or [by email](#) for more information.

## Mark your Calendar

### MRWBA Events

MRWBA November Luncheon - Public Service  
Wednesday, November 2, 2011  
12:30 pm at Willow Oaks  
[Click here to register online](#)

MRWBA Public Service Project - CARITAS Furniture Bank  
Saturday, November 19, 2011  
9:00 am - 12:00 noon  
[Click here to register online](#)

MRWBA December Luncheon - Women of Achievement  
Wednesday, December 7, 2011  
12:30 pm at Willow Oaks  
[Click here to register online](#)

### Other Events

NAWBO - The Inner Game of Leadership  
Tuesday, November 8, 2011  
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
Willow Oaks Country Club  
[Click here to register online](#)

## New Member Profiles

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

### Alisson O. Pouille

State Corporation Commission, Attorney  
William & Mary School of Law 2008  
Contact Alisson [by email](#)

*Why did you become a lawyer?*

I always wanted to. I love to argue a position and then look at it from the other side. I also love to write. It is fascinating to me all the

MRWBA members, share news and status updates, and request and share referrals!





different meanings ten words in a statute could have depending on how you look at it. I knew early on that this would be my calling.

*Do you have a mentor? In what way has that person been important in your life?*

Yes. My mentor believed in me when nobody else did, which helped me believe in myself. He taught me that it doesn't matter if you start from the very bottom, you can still make it to the top. Passion, curiosity, and perseverance go a long way towards success. He continues to be a great mentor.

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

In college, I loved Economics & Law. The teacher was amazing. As my first law class, I also found the class' theories and explanations for how the country and the courts work pretty interesting.

*What did you do before law school?*

My parents have careers in the travel industry and really wanted me to take over their small business so I worked at a luxury hotel in Paris, assisted French pilots to communicate with air traffic control in the U.S. and acted as a tour guide in the Caribbean. I gave it a try, but I prefer to be on vacation when I travel.

*What inspires you?*

I love to read biographies about successful people. They've always faced a challenge in some way or another and things worked out for them. These books inspire me to keep going when things get tough.

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

I like to entertain, read, visit the farmer's market, go fishing with my husband or hike with my dog, Harley. I also enjoy photography.

*Tell us something about yourself that is not on your resume.*

I didn't speak English until Kindergarten! My first language is French.

## Marin Brooke Hoplamazian

Supreme Court of Virginia, Office of the Chief Staff Attorney, Law Clerk

William & Mary School of Law, 2009

Contact Marin [by email](#)



*Why did you become a lawyer?*

I must admit I knew little to nothing about the practice of law when I made the decision to attend law school. I chose to pursue law because I knew it would be a challenging and intellectually stimulating career field, and I knew I would not be hard-pressed to find a very meaningful and rewarding use for my degree.

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

In college, I loved almost every English literature class I ever took. I am endlessly fascinated by the beauty of language, and endlessly in awe of talented writers who can bend and flex language in new and complex ways. In law school, I loved my Trusts and Estates class. It was very technical, and I felt like every issue was like a puzzle that required me to find the pieces and arrange them appropriately.

*What did you do before law school?*

I attended college at the University of Michigan, where I studied English and Biopsychology. After graduation, I went straight to law school.

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

It's always been a dream of mine to be a published writer. I'm sure I have much more ambition than I do real talent. Like many exceptionally creative lawyers I know, I've written poems, and drafted parts of novels, plays, and short stories. I don't think there's anything more exciting than creating a relatable character out of thin air!

*What inspires you?*

Compassion from people who have every excuse not to exhibit it.

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

Read, write, dance, attend the theater, spend time with friends, and explore Richmond.

*Any good vacation plans?*

Home to Michigan for Thanksgiving, then again for Christmas. But planning my first trip to Europe and Great Britain for Fall 2012! Paris and London, here I come!

*Tell us about your family.*

I'm very close with my mom and my brother, and the large portion of my extended family still living in Michigan. My mom is a retired classical violinist, who has always been incredibly supportive of me and believed me capable of many things. My brother is a recent graduate of New York University Law School and is a first-year associate with Fulbright & Jaworski's New York office. Needless to say, I'm very proud of him!

*Tell us something about yourself that is not on your resume.*

I am very idealistic for my age.

## Sharon B. Ten

Locke Partin DeBoer & Quinn, Partner  
University of Richmond School of Law, 1994  
Contact Sharon [by email](#)



*Why did you become a lawyer?*

I was working as a paralegal in a law firm in Connecticut and realized that I wanted to be able to do more to help people.

*Why did you join the MRWBA?*

I had belonged years ago, but then moved to an office that was too far to be convenient to attend events. With my recent move, not only am I closer, but some of my new partners are involved with MRWBA.

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

Balancing work and family.

*Tell us about your family.*

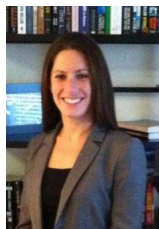
Married to Al since 1992. One son, Ryan, 8th grader at Midlothian Middle School.

*Tell us something about yourself that is not on your resume.*

I used to be a firefighter and EMT.

## Madelaine Kramer

Moran Reeves & Conn PC, Associate  
University of Richmond School of Law, 2011  
Contact Madelaine [by email](#)



*Why did you join the MRWBA?*

To network with other women like myself and, of course, for the wonderful luncheons!

*What inspires you?*

Watching my colleagues in action, whether it's inside or outside the courtroom, tackling challenging aspects of our profession.

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

I like to spend time outdoors visiting local wineries and festivals, and my book club can never introduce me to enough books.

*What are your vacation plans for 2012?*

I plan on hitting the slopes this winter, and will hopefully have an opportunity to visit Martha's Vineyard over the summer.

## Jessica Gilmore McGough

Student, William and Mary Law School, 2012  
Contact Jessica [by email](#)

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

*Why did you join the MRWBA?*

I am looking to move to the area with my family



after I graduate and I was hoping to meet attorneys in the area who can share advice and guidance.

*What did you do before law school?*

Before law school I attended SUNY Geneseo in New York.

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

Have not gotten there yet, but I assume it will be the job search in this economy!

*If you hadn't become a lawyer, what other career would you have pursued?* Nutritionist and personal trainer.

*What was your New Year's resolution?*

Not to worry about that which I cannot control.

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

I love to exercise and play in local recreational soccer leagues. And I love making stained glass pieces.

*What are your vacation plans for 2012?* Post-bar trip to Jamaica!

*Tell us about your family.*

My wonderful husband works for IBM and I have two beautiful puppies.

## Claire Scott "Scottie" McMullan

Virginia Commonwealth University, Coordinator of Pre-Law Advising and BSW Student Advisor Carolina Law (UNC-Chapel Hill), 2006  
Contact Scottie [by email](#)



*Why did you become a lawyer?*

I chose to return to school after a 20-year career in corporate America because of my 15-month experience as a foster-parent to an infant son. My participation in his mother's periodic care review hearings reawakened an adolescent interest in the law and ignited an adult passion for social justice and the integrity of family. My training in finance, project management, law, and social work has uniquely prepared me to listen to clients in a more holistic way and to problem solve in a wide variety of family circumstances.

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

The Nature of the Judicial Process, taught by a juvenile court adjunct who brought in panels of judges and lawyers from all manners and levels of courts, including federal & state, trial & appellate, criminal & civil. Writing on the Role of the Dissent brought a new perspective to my legal education.

*Why did you join the MRWBA?*

I joined in the belief that women can change the world and for the opportunity to begin connecting with the women's bar in the Metropolitan Richmond area.

*Do you have a mentor? In what way has that person been important in your life?*

I have had the blessing of incredible mentorship in every chapter of my life. Those people have taught me the importance of finding a win-win solution for clients and being fully present in whatever I do.

*What did you do before law school?*

I was a systems consultant for Accenture and a project manager and director at First Union Corporation (now Wells Fargo).

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

Sitting for the Virginia Bar Exam during a PhD program.

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

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

I read, kayak, and enjoy any water-based activity. I enjoy yoga and meditation. I also think about working out.

*What are your vacation plans for 2011?*

Sistership, a sailing school for women in the British Virgin Islands.

*Tell us about your family.*

I am blessed with an extended family that includes everything but a partridge in a pear tree. I count among my family: three parents; two brothers; seven sisters; assorted in-laws, nieces, and nephews; two adult stepchildren; three dogs; two cats; a vast network of friends; and more cousins than I can count!

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