

Bar Year 2007-2008

August 2007



Metropolitan Richmond Women's Bar Association

August 2007
VOLUME 1

September Luncheon

Special Guest Speaker: David Robbins

Wednesday, September 12, 2007

12:30pm



Please join us on September 12, 2007, at 12:30 p.m. at the Bull & Bear for our first luncheon of the new bar year! We are starting off a year of great programs with an exciting and interesting speaker – author David Robbins. A Richmond native, David grew up in Sandston and graduated from William & Mary with a degree in Theater and Speech. Not quite knowing what to do after that....he went to law school, graduating from William & Mary law in 1980.

David practiced environmental law for one year in Columbia, South Carolina, before quitting to become a freelance writer. He began writing fiction in 1990.

David has published six novels: *Souls to Keep*, a cosmic love story (published by Harper Collins in 1998); *War of the Rats*, set during the battle of Stalingrad (published by Bantam in 1999); *The End of War*, about the fall of Berlin at the end of WWII (published by Bantam in 2000); *Scorched Earth*, set in the American South, about a church burning and contemporary racism (published by Bantam in 2002); *Last Citadel*, about the great tank battle of Kursk on the Eastern Front of WWII (published by Bantam in 2003); *Liberation Road*, a tale of the battle for France in WWII told through the perspectives of two minorities in the U.S. Army, a black truck driver and a rabbi chaplain (published by Bantam in 2004); and *The Assassins Gallery*, an alternate history political thriller supposing the assassination of President Franklin Roosevelt. David is currently working on something he swore he would never write, a sequel.

The audio version of *War of the Rats* was nominated for an Audie, as one of the top three unabridged novels of 2000. David's books have appeared on the NY Times Bestseller list several times. He is a founder and board member of the James River Writers, a non-profit group in Richmond that helps aspiring writers and students work and learn together as a writing community.

Please join us for a very entertaining luncheon with David Robbins on September 12!

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. Lim-

ited 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 dead-

line. 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 Kim Skiba at such substitution prior to the luncheon.



President's Message



Welcome to the 2007-08 Bar year! We are off to a great start and hope you can all join us for our September luncheon which proves to be very interesting as David Robbins, a Richmond native, lawyer and author is joining us to enlighten and entertain us.

My theme this year, "Looking to Tomorrow" speaks so appropriately to the changes we are seeing. Already this year we have witnessed many changes in that two of our very well respected and endeared judges are retiring; Justice Elizabeth Lacy and Judge Kim O'Donnell. I know many of you enjoyed the wonderful toast we were honored to co-host in tribute to Justice Lacy for her service to Virginia as well as her support and friendship to the MRWBA. In addition, we are participating in the farewell to Judge O'Donnell who has made us all so proud for her wonderful accomplishments and service on the Richmond J&DR court. Together these fine women have served over 34 years on the bench and will be greatly missed. We wish them both the best as they are looking forward to and planning their tomorrows and selfishly we hope to be able to see more of them.

We've had a busy summer both planning these events and interviewing qualified candidates to fill these vacancies. Additionally, a special thanks to Ali Fannon, who is our current Membership chair. Ali, with the gracious assistance of her husband, has taken our membership application system into tomorrow! You can now renew your MRWBA membership on-line; simply by going to www.mrwba.org and clicking through "Join the MRWBA." Thanks, Ali!

And we are thrilled to welcome our new administrative assistance, Alison Roussy. Alison joined us right at year's end and has been tremendously helpful with updating our web site and databases and taking us in a new direction. If you have not had a chance to meet Alison, she will be joining us for our luncheons this year so make sure to introduce yourself.

We truly are looking to tomorrow and recognizing that time never stands still and opportunity abounds for the asking and taking! Hope to see you all on September 12!

Leslie A.T. Haley

MRWBA President 2007-08



Public Service Committee - Jennifer McClemore and Michelle Welch,
Co-Chairs

¿Habla Español?

CALLING ALL TRANSLATORS!

Maybe not all translators, but those of you who are interested in volunteering to translate our Domestic Relations Law Pamphlet into Spanish; and we need YOU. We need help translating the English version into a Spanish version. Please contact Jen or Michelle for more information.

The Public Service Committee would like to support different charities this year and in that spirit, we are seeking input from our membership as to what charities they would like to support this year. We will be asking for donations at each luncheon for a different but worthy charity. Please let us know what you care about!

For the first luncheon, we will be asking for donations for the students at T.J. High School.

We are enlarging our Moot Court program at T.J. High School. This program allows the students to participate in a mock trial. Each student is supervised by an attorney to enhance the experience.

Please contact either Jennifer or Michelle if you are willing to participate in this fun and worthy program.

Legislative Committee—Sharon Stuart, Chair

The 2007 Annual Legislative Luncheon and Panel Program was a large success thanks to the hard work of the Legislative committee, and its highly-esteemed presenters: Senators Martin, McDougle, Stosch, and Watkins, and Delegates Dance, Hall, Janis, O'Bannon, and Waddell.

The Legislative committee extends a warm thank you to the General Assembly members for sharing their time and stories with the MRWBA.

I am excited to once again 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 ssstuart@bolemanlaw.com.



2007 Certificate of Achievement



Jill Wells Nunnally, Past President of MRWBA, accepted the Certificate of Achievement Award for the MRWBA Mock Trial Program from Karen Gould, VSB President, and George Shanks, Chair of the Conference of Local Bar Associations at the annual CLBA Breakfast. The CLBA Breakfast was held during the Virginia State Bar Annual Meeting at the Cavalier Hotel in Virginia Beach on June 15, 2007

CLE Committee—Rondelle Herman, Chair

Upcoming CLE Luncheon! Need CLE credits? The MRWBA offers a great opportunity to earn CLE credits while enjoying a fabulous lunch.

1 hr of CLE credit!!!!

**YOU'VE GOT MAIL...
A Lawyer's Guide
to Email Ethics**

October 3, 2007 @ 12:30pm

The Bull and Bear Club

Featured speaker
David N. Anthony, Esq.

Cost: \$17 (lunch included)



Summer Activity
with the JCE

On July 23, 2007, the Judicial Candidate Endorsement ("JCE") Committee interviewed candidates seeking to be considered for the Richmond Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court position and who had requested endorsements from the Metropolitan Richmond Women's Bar Association ("MRWBA"). The Committee interviewed Rene Hicks, Marilynn C. Goss, Rondelle D. Herman, Mary E. Langer and Randy G. Johnson, Jr. and the Committee Chairperson reported its findings to the Senators and Delegates who represent the City of Richmond and surrounding localities.

On July 23, 2007, the JCE Committee also interviewed candidates seeking to be considered for the Virginia Supreme Court position being vacated by the resignation of the Honorable Elizabeth Lacy and who had requested endorsements from the MRWBA. The Committee interviewed William Mims, The Honorable Michael Allen, The Honorable Margaret Spencer, and Commander Lewis Booker, Jr. and the Committee Chair reported the Committee's findings to Governor Timothy Kaine.

The Richmond Women's Business Consortium (of which the MRWBA is a member) is seeking persons willing to assist with "Women Build - a partnership with Habitat for Humanity" which brings together various women's groups to assist in building a home for at least one single mother with children. At this time, the RWBC is seeking volunteers for (a) the Fundraising Chair position (there already are four powerhouse women on the committee - it just needs a chairperson); (b) a Public Relations and Marketing Chair (a powerful woman who runs a PR company has offered to serve on the committee and provide assistance already), (c) a Volunteer Coordinator Chairman. In addition, many volunteers will be needed to come out and build. However, at this time if anyone is interested in any of the three chairperson positions, they should e-mail Colleen Quinn at cquinn@cantorarkema.com as soon as possible.



Family Additions



MRWBA member Tara Casey had her baby! Sylvia Rosemary Dow was born on Saturday, May 5th. She weighed 7 lbs - 6 oz and measured 21".

MRWBA Public Relations Chair, Jacqueline Sharman, had her baby! Cody Lee Sharman was born on Monday, May 7, 2007. He weighed 8 lbs 2 oz and measured 20.5".

Thank You to IKON and BLACKFINN's Restaurant for your support on July 19, 2007 at the MRWBA summer party. The evening was enjoyable for all who attended.



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**If women can control the destiny of the world,
they can certainly control their own destiny.**

"Setting your financial goals is your business...
Helping you achieve them is ours."

- Gail Thompson, Vice President



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