

# WLA Newsletter

Circulation 373

August 2004

## *Board of Directors*

*2003-2004*

### Officers

- Peg McCartney, *President*
- Marjorie Carter, *Past President*
- Megan Phillips, *President-Elect*
- Beth Roper, *Vice-President*
- Lynn Ricci, *Secretary*
- Heather Hays, *Treasurer*

### Members-at-Large

- Lisa Herder
- Maribeth McMahon
- Genevieve Nichols
- Hon. Calea Stovall-Reid
- Tricia Susi
- Hon. Lisa Van Amburg

### **Inside this issue:**

- New Board* 2
- Legislative Update* 3
- Remembering Suffragists* 4
- New Sisters in Mid-Mo* 5
- In Memoriam:*  
*Kathy Schoene* 5
- Committee Descriptions* 6
- Fall Calendar* 8

## **President's Column, Peg McCartney**

It has been a whirlwind of a year! I can't convey the pride I feel looking back at the accomplishments of WLA this year. The 2003-2004 Board of Directors worked incredibly hard and they dedicated many hours to furthering the mission of WLA. Many of you were also called upon to donate your time, money, wisdom, expertise, creativity, energy—whatever you could contribute and you did! (And Did!) Thank you. Thank you. Thank you Special thanks to (in no special order): the 2003/04 Board of Directors, Karen Tokarz, Audrey Fleiszig, Laurel Tinsley and Thompson Coburn, Hon. Richard Teitelman, Erv Switzer, Bill Corrigan, Lori

Jones, Nancy Kistler, Mary Pat Schroeder, Mary Bruntraeger, Legal Services of Eastern Missouri, Ann Bauer, Mary Coffey, Rebecca Brown, Michelle Gavel, Laura Hewgley, Beth Boggs, Mike, Emily, Caitlin and Madeline McCartney, Connie Warner. Here is what we accomplished: Record membership, amended by-laws, amended articles of incorporation, a webpage with an on-line directory (coming soon), paperless communication, judicial applicant recommendation guidelines, a judicial application seminar, an affirmative action seminar, scholarship award, recognition of our newly appointed women judges and commissioners,



creation of a historical committee and a past-presidents' committee. Our holiday auction raised a record amount of \$7,000.00. And of course we also had a lot of fun! It was truly an honor to be the President of this great organization. Thank you!

## **High Marks for Judicial Appointments Workshop**

In conjunction with the Sue Shear Institute for Women in Public Life and the Washington University School of Law Clinical Program, WLA co-hosted a "very informative and successful" seminar, The Judicial Selection Process Under the Missouri Non-Partisan Court Plan, on June 18 at Washington University School of Law. Thirty lawyers attended. The agenda included an overview of the Missouri Non-Partisan Court Plan, criteria for a competitive application, the interview process with the judicial commissions and the governor's office, and strategies for campaigning for election to the judicial commissions. Among the faculty for this series of panel discussions were: Mildred Cohn, Appellate Judicial Commission for the Eastern District; David Cosgrove, Chief Legal Counsel to Governor Holden; Joe Bedinar, Armstrong Teasdale, and Brad Ketcher, both former Counsel to the late Governor Mel Carnahan; Brad Ketcher; Vivian Eveloff, Director of the Sue Shear Institute for Women in Public Life and former public member of the Commission on the Retirement, Removal, and Discipline of Judges; Nancy Kistler, former member of the Judicial Commission for the 22<sup>nd</sup> Circuit; Hon. Lawrence Mooney, Missouri Court of Appeals for the Eastern District; Hon. Calea Stovall-Reid, Associate Circuit Judge for the 22<sup>nd</sup> Circuit; Hon. Lisa Van Amburg, Circuit Judge for the 22<sup>nd</sup> Circuit; and Hon. Barbara Wallace, Presiding Judge of the 21<sup>st</sup> Circuit. Co-sponsors of the event were Washington University School of Law Clinical Programs, Washington University School of Law Women's Law Caucus, Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis Section on Women in the Legal Profession, Missouri Bar Gender & Justice Committee, the Association of Women Lawyers of Greater Kansas City, and the newly formed Women Lawyers' Association of Mid-Missouri.

## New Board to be Installed September 21

Roughly 40 percent of the WLA membership voted in July to elect a new board of directors for the 2004-2005 term. The pool of talent was deep, with contested races for treasurer and members-at-large. All candidates brought excellent credentials and a proven commitment to WLA's mission. When all votes were counted, the results produced the following new board:

### Officers:

President: Megan Phillips, Levine Law LLC  
 President-Elect: Heather Hays, Ryneerson, Suess, Schnurbusch & Champion  
 Vice-President: Lynn Ricci, Garnholz & Ricci, L.C.  
 Secretary: Genevieve Nichols, Coffey & Associates  
 Treasurer: Debbie Benoit, Kruger Benoit  
 Past-President: Peg McCartney, Traffic Court Commissioner, 21<sup>st</sup> Circuit

### Members-at-large:

Suzette Carlisle, Missouri Div. of Workers' Compensation  
 Kathleen Dubois, Family Court Project of Legal Services of Eastern Missouri  
 Kris Kerr, Family Court Commissioner, 21<sup>st</sup> Circuit  
 Tricia Susi, The Catalona Law Firm  
 Katie Wessling, Legal Advocates for Abused Women  
 Hon. Lisa Van Amburg, Circuit Judge, 22<sup>nd</sup> Circuit

The Honorable Audrey Fleissig, United States Magistrate Judge, will administer the WLA oath of office to the incoming board at the annual **Officer Installation Banquet on September 21**. The event will take place at Forest Park Golf Club. The evening will begin at 6pm with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres on the veranda overlooking the golf course, followed by dinner in the formal dining room catered by Three Leaves Catering.

After dinner, outgoing President Peg McCartney will bestow the Annual President's Award on the Honorable Mary Bruntrager Schroeder, Associate Circuit Judge of the 21<sup>st</sup> Circuit. Judge Schroeder has been a long-time supporter of WLA and a role model for women in the St. Louis legal community.

Banquet invitations will be mailed shortly. WLA encourages you to reserve a table of ten by extending the invitation to non-member friends, colleagues, and clients. Be sure to RSVP promptly! **In order to keep ticket prices low, WLA is accepting underwriting donations** at levels of \$500 (sponsor), \$250 (co-host), and \$100 (friend). Donors whose contributions are received on or **before September 15** will be recognized at the banquet on signs and in the program, as well as in the October newsletter.

See you there!

## In Memoriam

*(from the St. Louis Post Dispatch)*

**Kathleen S. Schoene**, a partner with Armstrong Teasdale LLC, died Wednesday, Aug. 25 of ovarian cancer. She was 51. Ms. Schoene was born in Glen Ridge, N.J. In 1974, she graduated with honors from Grinnell College in Iowa. She received her master's degree in Library Science from Southern Connecticut State University in 1976 and her law degree in 1982 from Washington University School of Law where she was a member of the Order of the Coif and managing editor of Washington University Law Quarterly.

From 1982 until 2000, Ms. Schoene practiced mergers and acquisitions, securities and corporate law with Peper, Martin. In 2000, Armstrong Teasdale LLP created its mergers and acquisitions department and named Ms. Schoene as department chairwoman.

Ms. Schoene received many awards throughout her career. In April, she was the recipient of the Daily Record's Women's Justice Award for her contributions to her area of expertise and positive influence in the community. Ms. Schoene served as president of the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis from 1995 to 1996 and co-chair of the Missouri Bar Gender and Justice Committee. She was also involved in many civic and charitable activities.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to an endowment fund to be established in her name at Washington University School of Law, One Brookings Drive, St. Louis, Mo. 63130; or to the Ovarian Cancer Research Fund Inc., 1 Pennsylvania Plaza, Suite 1610, New York, N.Y. 10119.

## WLA Races (more or less) for the Cure on June 12

by Lynn Ricci

Indecisive skies and a crowded Metrolink started the 6th Annual Women St. Louis Race for the Cure. But Team WLA was out in force, wearing Caribbean blue WLA tee shirts and carrying pink butterfly nets in the spirit of "catching the cure." Forty-nine people, including members, spouses, friends, and children, signed up for Team WLA and joined the 50,000 plus participants in this year's event. After the ramble (I observed no one in our group "racing"), many gathered at the home of Kate Denner to enjoy brunch on what turned out to be a sunny day. To view more Race photos, go to [www.stlouisraceforthecure.org](http://www.stlouisraceforthecure.org) AND plan on joining us next year!



## Legislative Updates

*(Courtesy of the Missouri Coalition Against Domestic Violence (MCADV))*

### **Omnibus Judiciary Bill SB 1211 Contains Several Measures on Domestic Violence**

#### **SSVF Grant Program**

SB 1211 includes a provision that will establish in state law a permanent 50/50 split of crime victim compensation fines between the State Services to Victims Fund (SSVF) grant program and the Crime Victims Compensation Fund (CVC) for direct payments to victims of crime. An increase in the total amount of funds collected through crime victims compensation fines is expected through a provision that levies a fine on those who receive a suspended imposition of sentence.

#### **Stalking Redefined for Orders of Protection**

SB 1211 contains an amendment to the current definition of stalking in the Adult Abuse Act--for both adult and child Orders of Protection--that is intended to reduce "frivolous" filings for Orders of Protection by those in landlord/tenant disputes and neighbors/others in conflict but not in danger from stalking. The change removes the word "harasses" from the current definition--the identified cause of the non-traditional stalking filings for protection orders--and instead revises the definition of stalking as: " 'Stalking' is when an adult purposely and repeatedly engages in an unwanted course of conduct that causes alarm to another person when it is reasonable in that person's situation to have been alarmed by the conduct. As used in this subdivision, (a) 'Course of conduct' means a pattern of conduct composed of repeated acts over a period of time, however short, that serves no legitimate purpose. Such conduct may include, but is not limited to, following the other person or unwanted communication or unwanted conduct; (b) 'Repeated' means two or more incidents evidencing a continuity of purpose, and (c) 'Alarm' means to cause fear of danger of physical harm." (455.010 (10) RSMo. and 455.501 (10) RSMo.)

#### **Judges May Hold Compliance Hearings for Respondents to Full Orders of Protection**

SB 1211 creates a new section of law in the Adult Abuse Act, 455.090 RSMo., that specifies that courts retain jurisdiction over a Full Order of Protection for its entire duration, and that the court "may schedule compliance review hearings to monitor the respondent's compliance with the order." This new section of law specifies that all terms of the order of protection are "enforceable by all remedies available at law for the enforcement of a judgment, and the court may punish a respondent who willfully violates the order of protection to the same extent as provided by law for contempt of the court in any other suit or proceeding..."

#### **Translators and Interpreters in Civil and Juvenile Courts**

SB 1211 amends current law that provides interpreters and translators solely for witnesses and participants in criminal courts by adding that non-English speaking persons--which include persons who are deaf or have a hearing disability--may have qualified interpreters or translators appointed for them in *all* legal proceedings to which they are a party or witness (476.800, 810, 820 RSMo.) While this change in law would allow the courts to assess the costs of a translator or interpreter against the parties in a civil court proceeding, existing law prevails that does not allow any costs to be assessed against a petitioner seeking to obtain an Order of Protection.

#### **Legal Name Change for Domestic Violence Victims Need Not be Published**

SB 1211 contains an amendment to current law governing the process by which an individual petitions the court for a legal name change, adding that public notice of such a name change does not have to be published in the newspaper if the petitioner is a victim of a crime of domestic violence, child abuse, or abuse by a family or household member. Current law requires a petitioner for a name change to publish notice of an intended name change three times in a newspaper in the county in which they reside. SB 1211 makes this statutory revision in 527.290 RSMo.

#### **State Legal Expense Fund Adds Pro Bono Attorneys Working for Non-Profit Social Services Organizations**

SB 1211 amended the existing "State Legal Expense Fund" in 105.711 RSMo. to include licensed Missouri attorneys who practice law without compensation through a nonprofit 501(c)3 community social services center. This would allow such a pro bono attorney to receive up to a maximum of \$500,000 in state legal expense fund coverage for claims or judgments against him/her for work done on behalf of a non-profit. Rules regarding the contract procedures and the documentation of such pro bono legal practice through this section are to be developed by the Missouri Attorney General.

#### **Omnibus Child Welfare and Foster Care Bill: House Bill 1453— Protections Added for Non-Offending Parents**

Among the many, many provisions in the nearly 200-page House Bill 1453 is a new section of law that would provide protections for non-offending parents of children subject to child abuse or neglect by an offending parent. The new provision provides guidelines for the juvenile court when it is conducting proceedings and investigations of child abuse and neglect. The new section specifies that the court shall promptly return a child to the care and custody of a non-offending parent entitled to physical custody of the child if certain conditions are met. Among those are that the parents were either living together for at least six months prior to the incident of alleged abuse/neglect, or did not live together; a preponderance of the evidence indicates that only one of the parents is the subject of an abuse/neglect investigation; the non-offending parent does not have a history during the preceding five years of criminal behavior, drug or alcohol abuse, child abuse or neglect, domestic violence, stalking or Full Orders of Protection against them; the offending parent is removed from the home shared with the non-offending parent; and the non-offending parent requests custody of the child and agrees to cooperate with all court orders limiting contact with the offending parent. An amendment to this section clarifies that the court and the Children's Division have discretion in the placement of a child with a non-offending parent who might have one or more prohibited conditions present, such as would be the case of a battered mother subject to a dual domestic violence arrest or one who might have received drug and alcohol treatment. An additional amendment further clarifies that, when a non-offending parent has been living with the offending parent, or was providing court-ordered visitation of a child with the offending parent, it is a rebuttable presumption that the non-offending parent was not a participant in abuse, neglect, or endangerment of the child caused by the offending parent. In order to rebut the presumption, there must be a finding by the court of actual harm or endangerment to the child if the child is placed in the custody of the non-offending parent.

## Remembering How Women Got the Vote *Reprinted from Houston Independent Media Center* (<http://houston.indymedia.org>), an open publishing source. Author unknown.

The women were innocent and defenseless. And by the end of the night, they were barely alive. Forty prison guards wielding clubs and their warden's blessing went on a rampage against the 33 women wrongly convicted of "obstructing sidewalk traffic."

They beat Lucy Burn, chained her hands to the cell bars above her head and left her hanging for the night, bleeding and gasping for air. They hurled Dora Lewis into a dark cell, smashed her head against an iron bed and knocked her out cold. Her cellmate, Alice Cosu, thought Lewis was dead and suffered a heart attack. Additional affidavits describe the guards grabbing, ragging, beating, choking, slamming, pinching, twisting and kicking the women. Thus unfolded the "Night of Terror" on Nov. 15, 1917, when the warden at the Occoquan Workhouse in Virginia ordered his guards to teach a lesson to the suffragists imprisoned there because they dared to picket Woodrow Wilson's White House for the right to vote.

For weeks, the women's only water came from an open pail. Their food--all of it colorless slop--was infested with worms. When one of the leaders, Alice Paul, embarked on a hunger strike, they tied her to a chair, forced a tube down her throat and poured liquid into her until she vomited. She was tortured like this for weeks until word was smuggled out to the press.

So, refresh my memory. Some women won't vote this year because--why, exactly? We have carpool duties? We have to get to work? Our vote doesn't matter? It's raining? Last week, I went to a sparsely attended screening of HBO's new movie *Iron Jawed Angels*. It is a graphic depiction of the battle these women waged so that I could pull the curtain at the polling booth and have my say. I am ashamed to say I needed the reminder. All these years later, voter registration is still my passion. But the actual

act of voting had become less personal for me, more rote. Frankly, voting often felt more like an obligation than a privilege. Sometimes it was inconvenient. My friend Wendy, who is my age and studied women's history, saw the HBO movie, too. When she stopped by my desk to talk about it, she looked angry. She was--with herself. "One thought kept coming back to me as I watched that movie," she said. "What would those women think of the way I use--or don't use--my right to vote? All of us take it for granted now, not just younger women, but those of us who did seek to learn." The right to vote, she said, had become valuable to her "all over again."

HBO will run the movie periodically before releasing it on video and DVD. I wish all history, social studies and government teachers would include the movie in their curriculum. I want it shown on Bunko night, too, and anywhere else women gather. I realize this isn't our usual idea of socializing, but we are not voting in the numbers that we should be, and I think a little shock therapy is in order. It is jarring to watch Woodrow Wilson and his cronies try to persuade a psychiatrist to declare Alice Paul insane so that she could be permanently institutionalized. And it is inspiring to watch the doctor refuse. Alice Paul was strong, he said, and brave. That didn't make her crazy. The doctor admonished the men: "Courage in women is often mistaken for insanity."

### New Web Site Coming Soon!

Thanks to some hard work and volunteer time by Board member Genevieve Nichols and the Bandolier Group's Stacey Harris, WLA will soon have a new and improved website. The site will be more functional and user-friendly and will contain links to all the information members need to be in the loop and fully engaged with WLA and its mission, board, members, committees, events, and initiatives. **Be sure to sign up for the on-line member directory when you get your membership renewal form!**

## THANK YOU - THANK YOU - THANK YOU - THANK YOU - THANK YOU - THANK YOU

Megan Phillips wishes to express her infinite gratitude to all the women lawyers who volunteered their time, energy, and expertise to contribute to the success of the law program at Missouri Girls State. Missouri Girls State is a mock government summer camp for high school seniors organized by the American Legion Auxiliary since 1941. Seven hundred fifty young women attend the program, of which 225 chose the law as their "major" for the week. The program relies on volunteers to present and coordinate substantive programming. Volunteer lawyers facilitated small group discussions, helped students prepare for debates and mock trials, and discussed legal issues and careers in panel formats. The program took place on the campus of Central Missouri State University in Warrensburg June 21-24. Lawyers drove from St. Louis, Kansas City, Columbia, and Jefferson City to volunteer. They are: Laronda Burse (SL), Shonagh Clements (SL), Hon. Kathleen Forsyth (KC), Nancy Morales Gonzalez (KC), Wendy Hickey (KC), Deborah Hodes (KC), Phebe Lamar (Columbia), Genevieve Nichols (SL), Nadine Nunn (SL), Diane Peters (JC), Beth Riggert (Columbia), Inez Ross (SL), Kimberly Shields (JC), Hon. Calea Stovall-Reid (SL), Shelley Syler (Columbia), Leslie Tolliver (SL), Hope Whitehead (SL), Andria Zylstra (Columbia). Please give these women a pat on the back next time you see them (or better yet, buy them a drink). Megan also thanks her law school clinic partner, Angel Woodruff of Jackson, Missouri, for her time and advisement and the law firm of Shook Hardy & Bacon, courtesy of Jolie Justus (Kansas City), the Association for Women Lawyers of Greater Kansas City, and our own WLA for their generous contributions, in cash and in kind, toward the reproduction of materials for the program. Megan invites members to contact her at [phbreton@swbell.net](mailto:phbreton@swbell.net) to participate in the program next summer.

## Charity Auction Committee Soliciting Applications

Each year, the Women Lawyers' Association of Greater St. Louis contributes the proceeds of its Holiday Auction to one or two charities that provide services for women, youth and/or children in the St. Louis metropolitan area. The charity selection committee reviews the applications and makes a recommendation to the WLA Board. The Board then selects an organization to receive the contribution. All charitable organizations that provide the services described above will be considered, regardless of whether they have submitted a request or received a contribution in prior years. Contributions in the past have ranged from \$2,000 to approximately \$4,000. Applications from interested charitable organizations should include the following:

- A copy of any brochure or other informational material available describing the services of the organization, and/or written statement describing those services and the organizational mission
- A specific statement about how the contribution will be used (limit one page)
- A copy of the organization's annual budget, if available, or, if not available, a brief statement describing the organization's budget and income sources
- A list of names of current directors and officers
- A list of all other names by which the organization have been known and/or have operated within the past 5 years
- A statement addressing any past or current support the organization has received from WLA
- A copy of the organization's 501(c)(3) exempt status letter from the IRS

All applications must be received on or before September 30th at 5:00 p.m. Submit to the Women Lawyers' Association of Greater St. Louis, care of Lynn Ricci, Garnholz & Ricci, LC, 1200 S. Big Bend Blvd., St. Louis, Missouri 63117. Deliver in hand or by mail. Facsimiles will not be accepted and late applications will not be considered. Lastly, it's never too early to **start collecting donations for the auction!** Go to the web site for donation forms: [http://mobar.org/local\\_bars/wlasite.htm](http://mobar.org/local_bars/wlasite.htm).

### Huzzah to Sisters in Mid-Missouri

WLA wishes to congratulate the founding members and board of directors of the newly-formed Women Lawyers' Association of Mid-Missouri. The organization's first board of directors is composed of:

#### Officers:

President: Kim Shields, Armstrong Teasdale, Jefferson City  
 Vice-President: Mariam Decker, Oliver Walker & Wilson, Columbia  
 Secretary: Michelle Coleman, Associate City Counselor for Jefferson City  
 Treasurer: Diane Peters, Assistant Attorney General, Jefferson City

#### Members-at-Large

Susan Ford Robertson, Ford Parshall & Baker, Columbia  
 Phebe LaMar, Smith Lewis, Columbia  
 Marsha Fischer, Walther Antel Stamper & Fischer, Columbia  
 Donna Pavlick, MU School of Law, Columbia  
 Carla Holste, Carson & Coil, Jefferson City

**WLA has new co-executive directors**, Angela Williams Smith and Angel Casey. Both Angela and Angel work at Washington University School of Law Career Services office where they are office administrators. Angela has been with W.U. for 7 years and Angel joined the office 5 years ago. These two incredibly organized and energetic women will be managing WLA's administrative business on a part-time basis. Although we are sad to lose Jan Putney to her new full-time job, we are excited that Angie and Angel will be working with us to improve and upgrade our member database and webpage. Angie and Angel may be reached by addressing correspondence to the WLA e-mail address [wlastl@yahoo.com](mailto:wlastl@yahoo.com) or phone number 314-963-5290 (voicemail).

### Thanks for Member Input

WLA recently solicited your thoughts and opinions as to whether WLA should put out a position statement regarding the proposed Constitutional Amendment banning same-sex marriages in Missouri. The issue is obviously moot now, however we just wanted to update you as to the feedback we received. A majority of the responses we received indicated that WLA should not make a statement on behalf of the entire membership. Although there were arguments both "pro" and "anti" amendment, the majority opinion was that WLA should not take a position on behalf of its members. Rather, WLA should allow each member to individually speak by voting in the election. We received numerous thoughtful, intelligent, and heart-felt arguments. Thank you to all of you who responded. Although WLA did not take a position on the issue, it was important for us to know what our membership wanted us to do.

### Ready for Jury Duty?

As of August 28 attorneys are no longer exempt from jury duty. (RSMo §494.425(7)).

## Committee Work: 12 Easy Ways to Plug in to WLA

*Ever feel like all you do is work? How about getting away from the office for a while and doing something both fun and rewarding with WLA. Committees are the lifeblood of any organization. We need your time and talent to keep the organization running and to initiate new projects around issues of importance to you. Your membership renewal form is coming soon. Please sign up to contribute to one or more committees. Read below for more info:*

1. **Membership:** This committee strives to increase WLA membership through various recruiting efforts, e.g. visiting law offices, distributing brochures, holding informational meetings with women lawyers, visiting law schools and women student meetings, staffing tables at bar events, and other outreach efforts.
2. **Newsletter:** The monthly newsletter is WLA's primary channel of communication with its members. This committee assists the board's presiding officers in developing and publishing the newsletter by researching issues of interest to members, soliciting or submitting articles, photos, and other content for publication in the newsletter, and liaising with third party vendors regarding formatting, editing, and circulation.
3. **Website:** The website is the central source of public and member information about WLA and its mission, board, members, events, and initiatives. Members of this committee solicit, create, collect, and update content, manage site information, and liaise with third party web designers and hosts.
4. **PR/Communications/Media:** WLA's public perception, visibility, and influence are important to its ability to fully execute its mission of promoting women in the legal profession and creating positive change around women's issues in the general community. This committee communicates with local media outlets, works to enhance the organization's access to the media, promotes the organization and its efforts and events through media coverage, and ultimately strives to shine a light on substantive issues of importance to women and the legal community.
5. **Golf Tournament:** This committee organizes the yearly golf tournament held every October. This is one of WLA's most significant fundraisers. WLA relies on proceeds of this event for its operating budget.
6. **Mentorship:** WLA's mentorship program aims to provide female mentors and role models to female law students at St. Louis University, Washington University, and the University of Missouri-Columbia. The committee is responsible for liaising with the schools' women's organizations, matching students with WLA member-mentors based on need and fit, and planning social events for students and mentors.
7. **Scholarship:** WLA awards scholarships to female law students through the Linda J. Murphy memorial scholarship fund, supported by proceeds from individual donations from WLA members and supporters. The committee communicates with administrators and women student leaders at each of the state's four law schools, solicits and reviews student applications, recommends recipients to the Board for approval, and collaborates with the Judicial Committee to jointly plan the spring judicial and scholarship reception.
8. **Judicial:** The promotion of women in the judiciary and other positions of influence and leadership is a key function of WLA. This committee tracks vacancies within the judiciary and other arenas (e.g. bar leadership), informs the board when vacancies arise, and coordinates the application and endorsement process. The committee also collaborates with other entities to plan two joint events: a judicial appointments workshop with the Sue Shear Institute for Women in Public Life, and the judicial and scholarship reception with the Scholarship Committee.
9. **Legislative Committee:** This committee organizes the annual legislative luncheon where female state legislators inform members of current legislative issues. The committee selects the theme of the discussion, solicits the participation of the legislators, communicates with the Missouri Bar to obtain CLE accreditation for the event, and plans the logistics of the luncheon. This committee also tracks state legislation of interest to women lawyers and submits summaries of such legislation for publication in the WLA newsletter.
10. **Holiday Party and Charity Auction Committee:** This committee is responsible for WLA's annual holiday party and charity auction, proceeds of which are donated to local charities serving women and children. Committee members solicit and review charity applications and recommend recipients to the Board for approval. Members also organize the event by soliciting auction items from individuals and local businesses, preparing bid sheets and related documents, and planning event logistics for the party – one of the best attended events of the year.
11. **CLE Committee:** WLA offers CLE programs from time to time. The programs are open to all lawyers. Committee members select the topic, recruit speakers, communicate with the Missouri Bar to obtain CLE accreditation, and plan event logistics.
12. **Advisory/Historian:** This committee is open to past presidents of the organization. In its advisory capacity, the committee provides historical perspective and institutional knowledge to advise the board on policy issues. In its historian capacity, the committee is responsible for organizing and maintaining the organization's archives.

## Membership Updates

### Sheila Greenbaum joins Capes, Sokol, Goodman & Sarachan, P.C.

She will handle state and federal appellate cases and complex civil matters. Ms. Greenbaum has 30 years of legal experience. Most recently, Ms. Greenbaum worked as the Democratic Director of the Board of Elections, City of St. Louis. She served as Interim Director and Instructor at Saint Louis University School of Law. She worked as Senior Staff Attorney in the U.S. Court of Appeals, Eighth Circuit and for the federal government in numerous positions: Presiding Official of the U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board, Chief Regional Attorney of Region VII in the Department of Education/Office for Civil Rights, and Assistant Regional Attorney in the U.S. Department of Health, Education & Welfare.

Ms. Greenbaum is the recipient of the David Grosberg Young Leadership Award and the Woman of Valor Award, both from the Jewish Federation of St. Louis. She chaired the State of Missouri Deferred Compensation Commission. She participated in Leadership St. Louis and serves on the selection committee for FOCUS St. Louis. She has served on boards for many community organizations, including the A.C.L.U., Jewish Community Relations Council, United Way of Greater St. Louis and The Regional Arts Commission. Ms. Greenbaum holds a Bachelor of Arts from Case Western Reserve University and a Juris Doctor (with distinction) from the University of Missouri Kansas City School of Law.



**Kruse, Reinker, & Hamilton announces the addition of Christa S. Fields as their newest associate.** Ms. Fields practices in the areas of Real Estate, Personal Injury, and Civil Litigation. She received her Bachelors degree in Political Science with a Minor in Spanish from Texas A&M University and her law degree from Washington University in St. Louis.

## DIRECTORY CHANGES

Christa S. Fields  
Kruse, Reinker, & Hamilton L.L.C.  
2016 S. Big Bend Blvd.  
St. Louis, MO 63117  
314-333-4140

Mardi Montello announces that her firm has changed its name to Curtis, Heinz, Garrett and O'Keefe. Her new e-mail address is:  
mmontello@lawfirmemail.com

Mathis, Mafifian, Richter & Gandy, Ltd. Announce the relocation of their Belleville office to:  
23 Public Square, Suite 300  
P.O. Box 307  
Belleville, IL 62220  
(618) 234-9800 (office)  
(618) 234-9786 (fax)  
www.mmrg.com

**Cheryl Walker** received the Coro Emerging Leader Award. Coro's mission is to train community leaders to make meaningful contributions to society. Each honoree at the Thomas F. Latzer Awards Dinner represents a commitment to innovative, effective leadership that empowers individuals and communities. Walker is Of Counsel at Bryan Cave LLP and also is chief operating officer and general counsel of Citadel Partners, LLC. She provides pro bono legal services to visual and performance artists and is a board member for St. Louis Social Venture Partners, the United Way and the Board of Commissioners of Tower Grove Park. In 2003, Walker was appointed by Gov. Bob Holden to the University of Missouri's Board of Curators for a six-year term.

**Lost and Found** Men's windbreaker jacket left at Washington University School of Law after WLA Judicial and Scholarship Reception on May 12. To claim, contact Lynn Ricci at lricci@mindspring.com or 314-647-

### So, Whaddya Think?

The WLA Newsletter editors want your feedback about newsletter content, format, and distribution. We invite your submissions, announcements, or other contributions. Contact Megan Phillips at [phbreton@swbell.net](mailto:phbreton@swbell.net). Electronic distribution of the newsletter results in a substantial savings to the organization. However, paper copies are still available upon request. Members without e-mail or otherwise desiring to receive the newsletter by regular mail may opt out of electronic distribution by contacting WLA's Executive Directors at [wlastl@yahoo.com](mailto:wlastl@yahoo.com).

**WOMEN LAWYERS' ASSOCIATION OF GREATER ST. LOUIS**

P.O. Box 1428  
St. Louis, MO 63188

Phone: 314-963-5290  
Email: [wlastl@yahoo.com](mailto:wlastl@yahoo.com)  
Web page: [http://mobar.net/local\\_bars/wlasite.htm](http://mobar.net/local_bars/wlasite.htm)

---

See our web page at  
[http://mobar.net/local\\_bars/wlasite.htm](http://mobar.net/local_bars/wlasite.htm)

---

## **WLA Mission Statement**

To encourage women lawyers to prosper and endeavor in the profession and in their individual practices,  
To encourage and aid women in attaining and excelling in leadership positions,  
To encourage women to be civic-minded by volunteering their time and talent to the organization and to the Greater St. Louis area,  
To promote diversity and justice within the legal system and to end gender bias, and  
To work with community leaders to improve the status of women.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS AND REMINDERS...**

**Today:** Look for membership renewal form in the mail and respond promptly. Get five friends/colleagues to join WLA this year!

**September 21, 6 -9pm: Officer Installation Banquet** at Forest Park Golf Course Clubhouse.

**September 30, 1pm: Annual Golf Tournament** at Forest Park Golf Club.

**September 30, 5pm: Deadline for charity applications.** Mail or fax to Lynn Ricci (see article for more details).

**October 1, 7:45am: Women Lawyers' Breakfast Meeting** in conjunction with the Missouri Bar annual meeting at Renaissance Grand Hotel (8<sup>th</sup> & Washington). Topic: 12% is Not Enough: Getting More Women on the MoBar Board of Governors.

**October 1, 2:30-4pm: Reenactment of *Brown v. Board of Education*** at Old Courthouse, organized by joint-effort of Mound City Bar Association and Missouri Asian-American Bar Association in conjunction with the MoBar annual meeting.

**October 6, 5-8pm: Young Member Happy Hour** at Forest Park Boat House

**December 2: Annual Holiday Party and Charity Auction** at Forest Park Golf Course Clubhouse.