



MID-HUDSON WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



A Chapter of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York

July 2008

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Jodie M. Hanrahan, President

Welcome to the inaugural issue of our electronic Newsletter!

We have increasingly become an eco-friendly society conscious of the impact that the actions of each and everyone of us have on the environment. In acknowledging that every individual's actions help to preserve and protect not only our local environment but also our global environment, the Mid-Hudson Women's Bar Association also wants to do its part in becoming more eco-friendly. We hope that publishing our newsletter electronically will be a way to both promote this philosophy while simultaneously allowing us to ensure our financial resources (the cost of a

stamp just keeps rising!) may be allocated towards providing our members with free programs and other member benefits.

We will be publishing our newsletter quarterly beginning with our second issue this September. We encourage you to utilize our newsletter as a resource for your firm, practice or business. It is an opportunity to announce any professional achievements or awards, changes in contact information and employment opportunities. It may also be used as a wonderful resource to disseminate information about events supporting persons, charities, not-for-profit organizations and other civic associations.

We hope that you will take advantage of our newsletter and forward any submissions to Kelly Traver at ktraver@gklaw.us. If you have a brochure, flyer or other document that you wish to be included in the newsletter, please submit it as an Adobe Acrobat document. We also have advertising opportunities available. You may contact Kelly at 454-3250 with any questions or for additional information regarding advertising.

A special thanks to Kelly who has spent countless hours in formatting our newsletter, purchasing and setting up our software program, and who has also offered to be this year's editor.

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Up Coming Events

Details concerning each event coming soon!

- *Fall Networking Event*
- *Breast Cancer Awareness Walk*
- *Continuing Legal Education Seminars*
- *Informal breakfasts and lunches*



News About Our Members



Member, **Pamela B. Richardson**, recently joined the law firm of Gellert & Klein, P.C. Pamela concentrates in the areas of municipal law, land use and zoning and commercial real estate matters.

Member, **Noelle M. Pecora**, recently joined the law firm of McCabe & Mack, LLP. Noelle concentrates in the areas of trust and estate administration, estate planning and elder law.



Member, **Joan Posner**, is running for Dutchess County Family Court Judge. She is a past-President of our bar association and her career includes twenty years as the Court Attorney for retiring Family Court Judge Damian Amodeo.

Member, **Laura Vincenzi**, also recently joined the law firm of Gellert & Klein, P.C. Laura concentrates in the areas of real estate, estate planning and elder law planning.

(President's Message Continued)

We are also looking into the idea of creating a website for our chapter. We have made several inquiries as to the cost to create, maintain and update the website. The goal of our website is similar to that of the newsletter – eco-friendly and cost-efficient. It will also provide us with an easily accessible format by which we can disseminate information about events, membership information and foster communication to and between members. However, we will continue to utilize email blasts to remind members about upcoming events so please remember to update us with any changes in your contact information.

Don't forget that your membership in the Mid-Hudson Women's Bar Association automatically enrolls you as a member of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York ("WBASNY"). WBASNY has a wonderful website full of lots of great information as to its legislative reform efforts, information about chapters from all over New York, CLEs being offered and career opportunities. Their website can be found at www.wbasny.bluestep.net.

It is an honor to serve as your President and I am looking forward to an exciting year ahead. Look for an announcement about our next functions, which will be in September.

Best regards, Jodie

SUBMISSIONS WELCOME!! Newsletter seeks submissions to make the publication both interesting and relevant to our members. These submissions include, but are not limited to, substantive articles, news about our members, chapter news, and photos of chapter events. The deadline for the next newsletter is August 31, 2008. Submissions accepted for publication are at the sole discretion of the Newsletter Editor and are subject to editing. Submissions should be mailed to Newsletter Committee, Mid-Hudson Women's Bar Association, PO Box 68, Poughkeepsie, New York 12602 or by email to ktraver@gklaw.us. Anyone wishing to join the Newsletter Committee, please contact Kelly Traver at 845-454-3250 or ktraver@gklaw.us.

On May 14, 2008, the Mid-Hudson Women's Bar Association was honored to co-sponsor with the Dutchess County Bar Association a recognition dinner welcoming the Honorable George D. Marlow back to our area. We would like to share the following:

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

On behalf of my family and myself, I wish to thank the officers, board, and members of the Mid-Hudson Women's Bar Association for the wonderful "Welcome Home" dinner you co-sponsored for me on May 14th with the Dutchess County Bar Association. I've been back in town now, full time, since February 1st. As much as I loved working at the Appellate Division, First Department, for the last seven years, coming home has turned out to be even better than I expected. Spending more time with family, judicial colleagues, local lawyers, and my friends in this great community was my purpose in returning home. I've happily reached that goal every day since February 1st.

The dinner, however, was the "icing on the cake." There are few things as gratifying in one's professional life as hearing the kind words of peers with whom we interact daily, enhanced as the moment was by the presence of my entire family who also heard them.

I've been an active member of the Mid-Hudson Women's Bar Association for much of the time since I joined in about 1985 when the Association and I were much younger. From both a professional and personal point of view, joining and becoming active in this Association were among the best decisions I've ever made.

I thank all those who made the event happen and those who attended. It was an evening my family and I will never forget. I only hope I can continue to earn your confidence.

Sincerely yours,

GEORGE D. MARLOW

WANT TO ADVERTISE IN THIS NEWSLETTER? Please contact the Mid-Hudson Women's Bar Association to advertise in our upcoming newsletters. The following rates are for four (4) consecutive newsletters. Our newsletter is published September, January, March and June.

Full Page Ad - \$75.00 / Half Page Ad - \$50.00 / Quarter Page Ad - \$25.00

Deadline for all ads is the 15th of the month prior to publication. Call Kelly Traver at 454-3250 for any questions regarding advertising.

Annual Dinner and Installation of 2008-2009 Officers

The Would, Highland



Left to right: Lara Kasper-Buckareff, Jodie M. Hanrahan, Audrey Friedrichsen Scott, Honorable Christine A. Sproat, Christine Guido and Kelly L. Traver



Immediate Past President Veronica A. McMillan and President Jodie M. Hanrahan



Guest Speaker Honorable Christine A. Sproat



2008-2009 WBASNY President Gail Boggio



Honorable Christine A. Sproat swearing in the 2008-2009 MHWBA Officers

Our 2008 Fall Networking Event is right around the corner. Every year we kick off our membership drive by sponsoring a free event to anyone who joins the Mid-Hudson Women's Bar Association on or before the Fall Networking Event. This year is no exception. Details to follow shortly. Below are some pictures from last year's event.

2007 Fall Networking Event

Muddy Cup, Poughkeepsie



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We will be once again forming a team for the Breast Cancer Awareness Walk in October. Below are some pictures from last year's event.

Breast Cancer Awareness Walk



Mid-Hudson Women's Bar
Association
PO Box 68
Poughkeepsie, NY 12602

2008-2009 Officers:

Jodie M. Hanrahan, President
Kelly L. Traver, Vice President
Christine Guido, Treasurer & WBASNY Delegate
Penny Hahn, Corresponding Secretary
Audrey Friedrichsen Scott, Recording Secretary
Andrea Long, Director
Lara Kasper-Buckareff, Director
Veronica A. McMillan, Immediate Past President

WBASNY's Mission Statement is to "Promote the advancement of the status of women in society and of women in the legal profession; to promote the fair and equal administration of justice; and to act as a unified voice for its members with respect to issues of statewide, national and international significance to women generally and to attorneys in particular."

Membership has its Privileges



From the Fall Networking Event Held at the Muddy Cup in Poughkeepsie, New York.

Did you know that as a chapter member of the Mid-Hudson Women's Bar Association you are entitled to certain benefits from WBASNY? These benefits can be accessed on the WBASNY website and include discounts on the following: Hertz and Avis rentals, DHL shipping services, Lawyers' Diary and Manual (the red book) and Curves memberships, as well as access to professional liability insurance and credit services.

For \$100 a year, members can post their profiles on the WBASNY site with a link to their firm (if applicable). All referral calls to WBASNY are directed to this site. Firm discounts may be available depending on size. Go to www.wbasny.bluestep.net, click on the "Members" tab at the bottom of the page, then "Member Benefits."