



EQUAL TIMES

BEXAR COUNTY WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

If you were able to join us at our January luncheon at St. Mary's University, then you were treated to a great discussion by panelists Natalie Hall, Maurleen Cobb, and Monica Trollinger, moderated by Kristal Snelson. They shared with us their thoughts on work/life balance and life as an attorney. It was fascinating to be in the room with the many St. Mary's University law students as they tried to get their critical questions answered as they embark on their own legal careers.



Laura C. Mason

No matter our age, I'm sure we all can remember back to when we were in law school, and thinking about the days we'd be practicing law and building our own careers and lives. I know my mentors at that point were invaluable to me as I tried to determine what kind of attorney I wanted to be, where I wanted to work, and how to begin this career. I'm proud of our organization for continuing our mentoring work with St. Mary's University, and I look forward to future mentor/mentee opportunities this year.

In addition to mentoring, during the luncheon discussion I couldn't help but think about my own "work/life balance" and analyze what level of balance (or lack thereof, depending on the day or month!) I'm actually achieving. It was refreshing and comforting to observe from our panelists that there are many ways to achieve balance, to practice law, to have a satisfying career, and to have a rewarding personal and family life. I think it is wonderful that we live and work in a time and place where we are fortunate to have so many examples of balancing a successful legal career with a meaningful personal life. As I look around our membership, our members are nothing short of inspiring in what they are able to accomplish both professionally and personally.

Thank you to everyone who participated and made the luncheon event a success. And good luck to each of you in your own pursuit of balance!

FEBRUARY 2011

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MARCH LUNCHEON ANNOUNCEMENT

In March, we are pleased to welcome as our luncheon speaker, Teresa Ereon Giltner, a current member of the BCWBA and a shareholder in the San Antonio and Dallas offices of Cox Smith. Teresa will discuss the potential pitfalls for non-real estate lawyers dabbling in real estate law. CLE approval is pending.

When: Tuesday, March 1, 2011, Noon to 1:00 p.m.
Where: Club Giraud

RSVP by Friday, February 25, 2011 to Events@bexarcountywomensbar.org. Cost is \$25, payable at the door or online at Registration. For more information, contact Lisa Alcantar (lalcantar@prdg.com) or Maggie Giltner (mgiltner@prdg.com). We hope to see you there!

Mark your calendars! This year our luncheons will be held on the following dates:

Tuesday, March 1	Tuesday, August 2
Tuesday, April 1	Tuesday, September 6
Wednesday, May 4	Wednesday, October 5
Wednesday, June 8	Tuesday, November 1
Tuesday, July 5	

Recently, Associated Press reported that few female lawyers argue before the Supreme Court of the United States. To learn more, see "US Supreme Court Hears from Few Female Lawyers," by Jessica Gresko, available at: <http://www.newswest9.com/Global/story.asp?S=13874301>.

JANUARY LUNCHEON RECAP

By Lisa P. Alcantar

What a turnout! On January 26, 2011, BCWBA and the Women's Law Association held their annual joint luncheon at St. Mary's University. We had a great panel of speakers, composed of Natalie Hall, Maurleen W. Cobb, and Monica Trollinger. The panel was moderated by Kristal Snelson (Thurmond). The panel covered a wide range of topics, including the ever tenuous work-life balance, the definition of success, tips and suggestions for job hunting in our economy and managing student loans, and even dating!

The Alumni room was full of students, attorneys, justices and professors! The students truly enjoyed hearing about the panelists' differing specialties, experiences and backgrounds. Each panelist brought a different perspective to the table and students walked away with great advice and usable suggestions. The Women's Law Association received countless compliments from students about how specific and candid the panelists were in their responses. Thank you to everyone who helped to make this event a success.



Carol E. Jendrzey

Five Things a Woman, Her Physician and Her Attorney Should Know About Health Care and PPACA

By Carol E. Jendrzey

In January, the Women and the Law Section of the State Bar of Texas, in conjunction with the University of Texas Health Science Center's Council For Excellence in Women's Health, and the Bexar County Women's Bar Association sponsored a panel presentation on "5 Things a Woman, Her Physician and Her Attorney Need to Know About Health Care and PPACA." I was honored to moderate the distinguished panel comprised of Eileen Breslin, Ph.D., R.N. FAAN, Graciela Cigarroa, J.D., Catherine Greaves, J.D., Susan Jarvis, J.D., and Luci Leykum, M.D., M.B.A. The mixed audience of attorneys, physicians, nurses, nutritionists, administrators and the public made for insightful questions about the issues from various perspectives.

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act ("PPACA") was passed last March. However, as Susan Jarvis explained to the audience, the passage of PPACA was only the first step. There is still work to be done creating the rules and regulations needed to enforce the various provisions. The panel addressed questions regarding the effect of PPACA in various areas, such as medical costs, availability and accessibility of health care, the effect of the change in focus from procedure oriented to outcome oriented care, as well as Accountable Care Organizations. Catherine Greaves talked about how prescription medications, not previously covered as a result of a gap in Medicare Part D coverage known as the "Medicare Donut Hole" created an issue for many of the elderly, and how this had been partially relieved by PPACA. Ms. Greaves also talked about how co-pays for certain preventative services such as mammograms were no longer required. However, she pointed out, there is still some confusion as to exactly what services are considered part of the preventative care for which no co-payments may be assessed.

Graciela Cigarroa discussed issues related to electronic records under the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act, known as HITECH. The audience raised questions about a health care provider's liabilities with respect to the business associates that it uses for billing and other related services in light of the changes brought about by HITECH. Ms. Cigarroa also was joined by Dr. Leykum in the discussion as they responded to questions from the audience about the effect of HITECH on research studies involving patients.

Susan Jarvis continued the presentation with a discussion about the fact that the 19 to 54 year old age group is the largest uninsured part of the population and how PPACA intends to address that issue. Ms. Jarvis explained the various levels of coverage provided under the Health Care Exchanges and the effect on the employer and employee. Ms. Jarvis also talked about the protections in place to prevent an individual from being denied coverage due to a pre-existing condition or because the individual developed a serious illness.

Dr. Leykum presented a very informative discussion about the incentives being offered to health care providers to practice more outcome oriented care. As she put it, we are likely to see physicians and other health care providers "more on the patient's case" about coming in for follow-ups and complying with medication and treatment regimes. Dr. Leykum also talked about how some of (con'd on next page)

Five Things a Woman, Her Physician and Her Attorney Should Know About Health Care and PPACA (con'd from p. 3)

these measures may be extended into the workplace, whereby employers may be incentivized to provide healthy alternatives in the workplace.

The Accountable Care Organization (“ACO”) is another new concept to come out of PPACA. Dr. Breslin talked about what an ACO is and what might be expected from ACO’s. Her discussion about various types of health care providers, such as physicians, home health care agencies and hospitals all coming together as a group resulted in a number of questions about allocation of payment among the various ACO constituents, as well as, whether a provider could belong to more than one ACO.

The presentation would not have been complete without a discussion about future health care providers. Dr. Breslin, who is the Dean of the UTHSC School of Nursing and Dr. Leykum, who is the Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs at the Health Science Center Medical School shared their thoughts on how PPACA and other issues affect medical and nursing education. This also led to a discussion on the potential that there will be insufficient numbers of physicians and nurses to meet our health care needs. This, in turn, led to a discussion on some of the challenges nursing schools are facing in finding faculty to teach the graduate students necessary to provide such care.

The presentation concluded with an opportunity for members of the audience and the panel to talk and partake in refreshments generously provided by the University. The Council for the Women and the Law Section of the State Bar of Texas would like to express its gratitude to the Bexar County Women’s Bar Association and the University of Texas Health Science Center’s Council for Excellence in Women’s Health for joining the Women and the Law Section in sponsoring this event.

From left to right:
Luci Leyhum,
Graciela Cigarroa,
Susan Jarvis,
Carol Jendrzey,
Catherine Greaves, &
Eileen Breslin





ileta A. Sumner

*So prepare for the chance
of a lifetime
Be prepared for
sensational news
A shining new era
Is tiptoeing near us
And where do we feature?
Just listen to teacher
I know it is sordid
But you'll be rewarded
...BE PREPARED!*

BE PREPARED

By ileta A. Sumner

While the lyrics in the right border may seem foreign to you, don't be surprised if your children know them verbatim; however, it is not just the mere words to which they should pay attention – their message is extremely important, especially when it comes to potential medical emergencies. As you may recall, February is the American Heart Association's "Go Red for Women" month, an annual campaign to spread the word that heart disease is the number one killer of women. Although it has become an annual custom for me, as a viral cardiomyopathy survivor, to contribute my two cents on heart disease prevention, this year my focus is on our children and my suggestions on how best to prepare them for a possible cardiac episode.

By the time they are 3 years old, many of our kids already know to call 911 in case of an emergency. Nonetheless, they should be taught another method of getting EMT's to your home. I have shown my boys Joshua and Jayson where the "panic buttons" are on our alarm pads for our house (labeled "F," for fire, "A" for ambulance, and "P" for police). The reason is that you cannot always rely on your home land line and/or your cell phone may not be nearby. We have only one land line at home that serves us both for talking and our fax line. One evening, my husband, Jay, switched the line over so he could receive some important faxes. However, he failed to switch it back from the computer to our phones. The very next day, my implanted defibrillator blew 7 times and each time I picked up our home phone it was dead. Fortunately, I pounded on my panic button mid-shocks and also called Jay via my cellular so that he could dial 911. Yet, had my phone been in my car, I would have had no way to reach emergency technicians but for my panic button. Thus, get your children in the habit of hitting those buttons in addition to calling 911.

Once the EMT's arrive, they will want to know which medications you are currently taking; therefore, it is imperative that you keep a typed flowchart of what meds you take, the dosage and schedule of administration, the reason they were prescribed, by whom and that doctor's phone number. I keep mine on my computer and update it after every doctor's visit when I am prescribed a new medicine and delete the prior one that it is replacing. Likewise, I keep a hard copy in my purse, on my bookshelf and in my car's glove compartment. When the ambulance arrived at my house, Joshua, then 10 years old, was able to pull the list off of the bookcase and give it to the technicians. Upon my arrival to the ER, the doctors went by this list in considering what would be compatible to prescribe and what I still needed to be given later once I was formally admitted. Failure to have an up-to-date list will prevent the hospital staff from giving you meds immediately – they would probably prefer to contact your doctor's office without that list for guidance. Hence, you should keep one and your children should know how to locate it.

Finally, my last two suggestions are known best by their acronyms: CPR and ICE. Your older children should be taught the basics of CPR. It has been documented that constant chest compressions can be sufficient in keeping one alive until emergency professionals arrive. During our Christmas vacation in 2004, my younger son, Jayson, then 3 years old, had a febrile seizure. Immediately following, his eyes rolled back into his head, he stopped breathing and turned purple, (con'd on next page)

BE PREPARED (con'd from p. 5)

not a good color for a toddler's complexion! After I called the hotel emergency staff, I threw Jayson on the floor and began CPR chest compressions. Doctors later said that I saved his life – and I hadn't had a CPR class for 17 years! Although knowing CPR is important, having a listing of ICE in your cell phone/PDA is just as crucial. ICE stands for "in case of emergency." In my phone, you will find ICE – Jay, and then his cell phone number. If you lose consciousness and there is no family nearby, EMT's can check your phone so that they know who to contact on your behalf.

None of these suggestions is difficult to execute; nevertheless, each is an important step in keeping you alive. Apprise your loved ones about them and it will save minutes in the administration of emergency care – and many times a minute can be the difference between life and death. Practice these with your children so if you do indeed experience a severe cardiac problem, your kids will Be Prepared.

P.S. Please wear red on the first Friday of February as part of the national "Go Red for Women" effort to show support for heart disease survivors like me.

LADIES' NIGHT OUT AT JULIAN GOLD

By Connie L. Basel

Please join us for cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and the new spring fashion trends! Julian Gold will host a fabulous evening of fashion exclusively for the ladies of the Bexar County Women's Bar Association on Wednesday, February 16, 2011 from 5:30 - 7:30 at Julian Gold, 4109 McCullough. Please call or e-mail Connie Basel at (210) 798-8137 or cbasel@lyndworld.com for more information.

CONGRATULATIONS



Congratulations to BCWBA members Natalie Hall (left) and Julia Mann (right) for their selection by The San Antonio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and The Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce to the Leadership San Antonio Class 36!



BCWBA-Lites wants to hear from you!

BCWBA is interested in news of your professional accomplishments or activities, awards, marriages, changes of address, or other news you would like to share. Also, if you know any BCWBA member who is not receiving *Equal Times*, please send us a current address. BCWBA wants to stay in touch. Email your new information or announcement to Regina Stone-Harris at ReginaStoneHarris@yahoo.com.



Save the Date

Capital One Bank
presents the

Third Annual International Gala

benefitting

Dress for Success San Antonio

March 1, 2011, 6:00 P.M.

Grand Hyatt San Antonio

600 E. Market Street • San Antonio, Texas

For more information, please visit www.dressforsuccess.org/sanantonio
call 210-737-1515 or email events@dfssa.org



Can We Talk?

**COME CELEBRATE
Women's History Month!
Tuesday, March 22, 2011**

...about Why So Few?

Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics

**Hosted by
American Association
of University Women
San Antonio Branch**

Come hear Andresse St. Rose, Ed.D., co-author of *Why So Few?* share findings about women's underrepresentation in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

While progress has been made in education, business, law and medicine and the workplace during the past 50 years, women's gains have been less dramatic in scientific areas.

The Bright Shawl

**819 Augusta Street
San Antonio, Texas 78215**

Event Schedule:

Shop 'til you Drop Displays - 5 to 8:30

Networking - 5:30 p.m.

Dinner - 6:15 p.m.

Program - 7:00 p.m.

\$35 - postmarked by March 11, 2011

\$45 - after deadline and at the door

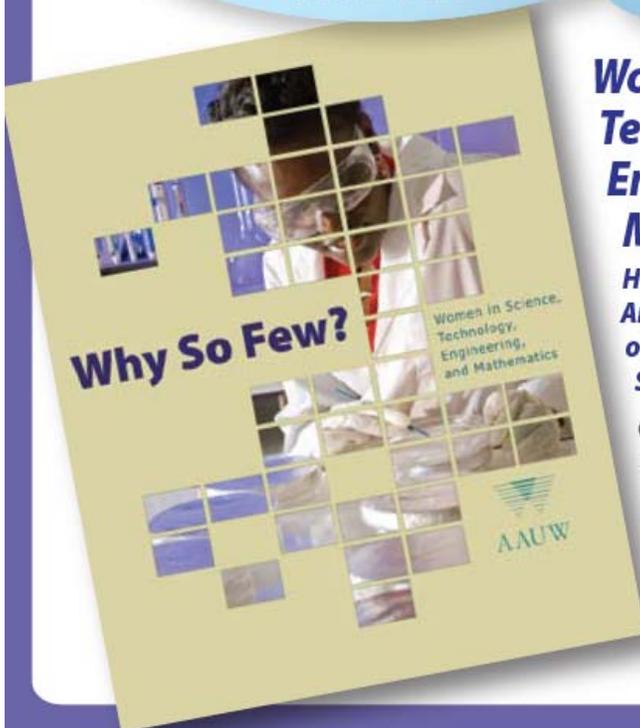
Attached registration form required

Send checks payable to:

"Can We Talk" c/o Pat Jasso

326 Anton Drive, San Antonio, TX 78223

Contact info: can_we_talk_sa@yahoo.com



Can We Talk is a coalition of over sixty-five women's organizations in San Antonio, Texas. Can We Talk events are scheduled each year in March, to commemorate Women's History Month, and on or near August 26, to commemorate Women's Equality Day and Texas Women's Independence Day. Can We Talk events are coordinated by a steering committee made up of representatives from member organizations

ABWA - La Villita Chapter
Air Force Women Officers' Association
Alamo Breast Cancer Foundation
Alpha Home, Inc.
American Association of University Women -
San Antonio Branch
American Society of Women Accountants
Annie's List
Association for Women in Communications, Inc.
Association for Women Journalists
Bexar County Democratic Women
Bexar County Women's Bar Association
Center for Women in Church and Society
Daughters of Charity Services of San Antonio
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
Dress for Success San Antonio
Esperanza Peace and Justice Center
Executive Women's Golf Association
Family Violence Prevention Services
Federally Employed Women
Financial Women International
Friendship Bridge
Girl Scouts of Southwest Texas

Girls Inc. of San Antonio
Government Affairs Council of Planned Parenthood
Hispanic Women's Network of Texas-
San Antonio Chapter
Leadership Texas Alumnae Association
League of Women Voters of the San Antonio Area
Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women
Mujeres Unidas Contra El SIDA
National Association of Professional Mortgage Women
National Association of Women Business Owners
National Coalition of 100 Black Women, S. A. Chapter
National Council of Negro Women
National Ovarian Cancer Coalition
National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Inc.
Network Power/Texas
P.E.A.C.E. Initiative
Pan American Round Tables of Texas
Planned Parenthood of San Antonio
& South Central Texas
Rape Crisis Center
SLEW Wellness Center
San Antonio College Women's Center
San Antonio Silver Stars

San Antonio Society of Women CPAs
San Antonio Women's Chamber of Commerce
San Antonio Women's Hall of Fame
Sistas in Business, Inc.
South Texas Women's Business Center
Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation
Texas Business Women/TX, Region 1
A La Nueva TBW; TBW, Inc. of San Antonio;
Mexican American TBW; Northwest Noon TBW
Texas Nurses Association, District 8
Texas Women's Coalition
University of Texas at San Antonio Archives
WINGS
Woman at the Well House
Women of AT&T
Women's Faculty Association
Women's Global Connection
Women's Pavilion at HemisFair Park, Inc.
Women's Political Caucus of Bexar County
Women's Sports Foundation
Women's Studies Institute - UTSA
Young Women's Christian Association
Zonta Club of San Antonio

EL PASO BAR ASSOCIATION

Presents

15th Annual Civil Trial Seminar*

February 18 & 19, 2011

Inn of the Mountain Gods

Mescalero, New Mexico

**Approved for 10.25 hours of MCLE/1.5 hours of Ethics by the
State Bar of Texas – Pending Approval by State Bar of NM**

Bruce Koehler, Moderator

Judge Linda Chew & Francisco Dominguez, Course Directors

Join us for a Weekend of Fun & Education

Schedule (Subject to change)

Friday, February 18, 2011

- 7:30 a.m. **Registration begins & Breakfast on your own**
- 9:55 - 10:00 a.m. **Welcome by Bruce Koehler**
- 10: 00– 11:00 a.m. **Deposition Strategies and Technique**
*Jeff Ray, Ray, Valdez, McChristian & Jeans, P.C., El Paso and
E. Link Beck, Beck & Hall, P.C., El Paso*
- 11:00 – 11:45 a.m. **E-Discovery**
Carlos Rincon, Rincon Law Group, El Paso
- 11:45 a.m. **Lunch (to be provided)**
- 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. **Keynote Speaker**
- 1:15 – 1:45 p.m. **Daubert**
*Joe Hood, Windle, Hood, Alley, Norton, Brittain & Jay, LLC
El Paso*
- 1:45 – 2:30 p.m. **Employment Law Issues for Lawyers**
Joleen Youngers, Santa Fe, New Mexico
- 2:30 – 3:00 p.m. **Unique Issues in Federal Court Practice**
The Honorable James Parker, United States District Judge
- 3:00 – 3:15 p.m. **Afternoon Break**
- 3:15 – 4:00 p.m. **Current Hot Topics in Immigration**
Iliana Holguin, Diocesan Migrant & Refugee Services, El Paso
- 4:00 – 5:15 p.m. **Texas/New Mexico Law: Differences Every Lawyer Should
Know**
*Professor Emeritus Ted Occhialino, University of New Mexico
Law School, Bob Trenchard, New Mexico*
- 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. **Sponsor Reception**

Saturday, February 19, 2011

- 7:30 – 8:30 a.m. **Breakfast**
- 8:30 – 9:00 a.m. **Jury Selection Tips and Techniques**
Bob Slabin, New Mexico
- 9:00 – 9:30 a.m. **Jury Charge/Preservation of Error**
Henry Paoli, Scott & Hulse, P.C., El Paso
- 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. **State Supreme Court Update**
Texas: Justice Guadalupe Rivera, 8th Court of Appeals, El Paso
New Mexico: Judge Sara Singleton
- 10:30 – 10:45 a.m. **Morning Break**
- 10:45 – 11:15 a.m. **Collection of Judgments or Show me the Money**
Susan Forbes, Forbes & Forbes, El Paso
- 11:15 – 12:15 p.m. **Trial Technology Issues**
David Jeans, Ray, Valdez, McChristian & Jeans, P.C., El Paso
and Roger Miller, Altep, Inc., El Paso
- 12:15 – 1:00 p.m. **Update/Status on the Rules of Disciplinary Conduct**
Steven C. James, El Paso

Door prizes will be given throughout the Seminar
Course Materials will be in the form of a flash drive

***Seminar will be held in the Conference Center**
\$300.00 – Members of EPBA ~ \$350.00 – Non-Members
\$225.00 – Legal Assistants/Paralegals

**** Make your reservations directly to the Inn of the Mountain Gods at 1/800/545-9011 or 1/575/464-7067 (ask for Chris) and tell them you are with the El Paso Bar Association to get our room rate of \$109 (single/double) occupancy, plus tax at the current rate of 10.75%. There is a two (2) night minimum stay. Please note that you will be charged a one time Resort Fee of \$10.00.**

REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____	Send your registration form and check to:
Address: _____	
Telephone: _____	
Fax: _____	El Paso Bar Association
E-mail: _____	500 E. San Antonio, L-112
SBN: _____	El Paso, Texas 79901
If paying by credit card:	\$300 – EPBA Members
Credit Card #: _____	\$350 - Nonmembers
Type: _____	\$225 – Legal Assistants
Expiration Date: _____	Paralegals

If you have any questions, comments or would like to be a sponsor, please contact the Bar Association Office at (915) 532-7052, (915) 532-7067 - FAX or go to our website, www.elpasobar.com or send an email to nancv@elpasobar.com