

SUFFOLK COUNTY WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION

A CHAPTER OF THE WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION
OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK



September / October 2010

WE HAVE A NEW PRESIDENT

*Suffolk County Women's Bar 2010
Annual Installation & Judiciary Night*



*New President
Shari Sugarman*

On June 23rd, the SCWBA celebrated its 27th Annual Installation and Judiciary Night at the beautiful Old Field Club in Setauket, N.Y. in keeping with tradition, the Hon Marion T. McNulty presided over the evening with her usual aplomb and humor.

Many guests, elected officials, and members of the Judiciary and attorneys were in attendance for this popular event. Among those present were Surrogate John Czygier; Hon. Denise Molia; Dean Lawrence Rafal, Assistant Dean Emeritus, Bar-

bara Mehrman, and friends/ staff from Touro Law School; Sheryl Randazzo, President of the Suffolk County Bar Assoc., President Elect Dennis Chase, and Executive Dir. Sarah Jane la Cova; as well as Barbara Ger vase, the newly installed President of the Nassau County Women's Bar Association.

Event sponsors Michael Weinstat, RIA, CPA, Weinstat & Weinstat and Susan V. Fasciano and Suzette Grant-McTaggart of New York Life



Insurance Company were recognized with appreciation, as well as our ongoing sponsors, Denise M. Anguilo of Advantage Title Company, Anthony Giordano of Wells Fargo Financial Services, Colleen West of Enright Court Reporting, and Lora Rosenthal, both our hard working Executive Director and president of Accurate Legal Services/Touchdown Abstract.

» continued on page 6



PLEASE PATRONIZE OUR SPONSORS & ADVERTISERS

Every year, we have many dedicated sponsors and advertisers that off-set our costs for events and newsletter publication. Without them, our events would be so much more expensive and we would not be able to provide you all with the same quality programs and events.

But over and over again, I hear that they never get any business from our members. It is so important that we use their services. So I ask that each of you, at the very least, give them a try. What have you got to lose?

NO FAULT DIVORCE

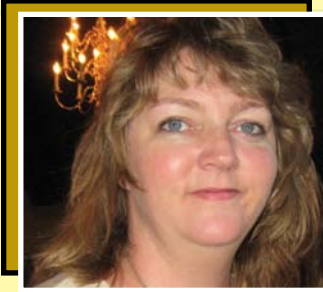
WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION
OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 16, 2010, New York, NY.
– The Women's Bar Association of the State of New York ("WBASNY") applauds Governor Paterson's signing of the law that permits either spouse to obtain a divorce upon a sworn statement that there has been an irretrievable breakdown in the marriage for at least six months without having to prove adultery, abandonment or cruel and inhuman treatment (the "No Fault Law"). WBASNY thanks Assemblyman Jonathan Bing, sponsor of

» continued on page 3

President's Message



I wanted to start off this message by stating how excited I am to be the President of this terrific organization this year, and that it is such an honor that I was chosen for this position. I am so full of great ideas that I want to present, it's almost impossible to put them all down on paper, but here are a few:

- Starting a charitable organization.
- Being green.
- Giving back to our community.
- Increasing our membership.
- Updating the website.
- Getting our members involved.

Is that enough? Call me an over-achiever, but I believe that this organization is capable of all that, and more. I have seen the generosity of our members and have felt the camaraderie of my colleagues since I was in law school, and I have always been proud to be a member.

With that being said, it's time to focus on what we have planned for this year.

As you can see, our newsletter has a whole new look. We have also decided to "go green" by sending future issues to our members electronically. By doing this, we are saving money and trees. You can always receive the hardcopy if you would prefer, just let us know on the membership application.

We are committed this year to increasing our membership. You may ask why we are always looking to increase our numbers. It's mainly to increase our number of delegates to WBASNY, which strengthens our chapter's voting voice on the state-wide level. Additionally, the more members we have, the more we are able to provide our members with quality programs and events and keep the costs down. Amy Bedell, our Vice President of Membership, and I have come up with some terrific ideas. Applications will be available at all our events so you can sign up right there. We are having a membership contest with the Nassau WBA (see more information later in this issue). If you renew your membership, or join, on or before our Membership Cocktail party, you will get a discount.

Speaking of which, our annual Membership Cocktail party is always a terrific networking event, and this year's party promises to deliver. The event is scheduled for Tuesday, September 14, 2010, at Shandon Court in East Islip. See the flyer included with this newsletter for more information.

Charitable foundation, you ask? As I discussed in my installation speech, the generosity of our mem-

bers is well recognized and what we have donated to worthy charities over the years is astounding. But let's bring that charity to the next level. If we can organize such a foundation and channel that generosity, we can help so many more. To do this, we need a steering committee to get this off the ground. So, if you are interested, please contact me at sugarmanesq@optonline.net.

Giving back to the community? How? I have discussed this with many members, and have several ideas. Let's volunteer to help build a house with Habitat for Humanity. Let's clean out our closets to help the Dress for Success program. Let's do pro bono work for the Touro Law Foreclosure & Bankruptcy Clinics. Got suggestions? Let us know! Want to help organize something? Get involved!

Finally, we are looking for proposals to update and maintain our website. If you know a website company who would like to submit an estimate/bid, please contact our Technology Committee Chairs.

Thank you so very much for your past involvement, and I look forward to seeing your renewed energy and participation this year!

ASK NOT WHAT SCWBA CAN DO FOR YOU!

By Shari Lee Sugarman

Have you ever wondered what you could do to help out the organization, but don't want to get overwhelmed with the work? Ever thought, gee, I could help out with [fill in the blank] but don't know who to ask? Ever had an idea for a program that hasn't been done before? If so, you are the person

we need. We are calling for volunteers to assist our board members and committee chairs with event planning, finding sponsors, stuffing envelopes, calling people, coming up with ideas, etc. This organization is about our members, and we need our members to help.

SUFFOLK COUNTY WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION

A CHAPTER OF THE WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION
OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

WBASNY PRESIDENT

Deborah Weisman-Estis

SCWBA CHAPTER OFFICERS

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Vice President of Programs » Kim M. Smith

Vice President of Membership » Amy E. Bedell

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Janessa M. Trotto

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Linda Morrone

ALTERNATE DELEGATES

Robin S. Abramowitz

Hon. Marion T. McNulty

Janis M. Noto

WBASNY

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By-Laws

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Legislative

Nominations

Court of Appeals Screening

Mentoring

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Lora Rosenthal » 631.224.196

Children's Rights

CLE

Criminal

Diversity

COMMITTEES (continued)

Domestic Violence

East End

Hon. Deborah Kooperstein » 631.774.1742

Elder/Trusts & Estates

Kim M. Smith » 631.941.3434

Melissa Negrin-Weiner » 631.390.5000

Nicole Zuvich » 516.505.1780

Law School Liaisons

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St. John's » Nicole Zuvich » 516.505.1780

Touro » Pamela Greene » 631.472.7470 &

Janis Noto » 631.666.8755

Legislative

Jennifer A. Mendelsohn » 631.648.6182

Matrimonial/Family Law

Janis Noto » 631.666.8755

Networking Luncheons

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Kathy Small » 631.360-0600

Real Estate

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Nicole Zuvich » 516.505.1780

Robin Abramowitz » 631.761.0870

Suffolk County Women's Bar Association, 900 Route 111 (Wheeler Rd.), Suite 220, Hauppauge, NY » (631) 406-7600

DIVORCE » continued from page 1

A-9753-A, Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver and Assemblywoman Helene Weinstein, Chair of the Assembly Judiciary Committee, as well as Senator Ruth Hassell-Thompson, the sponsor of Senate Bill S-3890-A, and Senator John Sampson for their sponsorship and leadership in bringing "No Fault" Legislation to the floor.

"After much thought and debate on both sides of 'No Fault' legislation, we are pleased and gratified that Governor Paterson has passed this historic 'No Fault' Law," stated Deborah Weisman-Estis, President of WBASNY. "Our Association's Mission includes the advancement of women in society and the

equal administration of justice for all. We have supported no-fault legislation because it will provide justice for and empower persons trapped in abusive marriages and those who otherwise had few if any real options under New York's draconian, fault-based divorce laws. Now with the passage of 'No Fault' Law, we urge all sides of the debate to come together to foster the efficient and expeditious implementation of less emotionally-draining but more resource-conserving divorce proceedings."

Press Contact:

LISA M. BLUESTEIN, ESQ., WBASNY

Phone: 212-362-4445, Fax: 212-721-1620

E-mail: info@wbasny.org, www.wbasny.org

The Women's Bar Association of the State of New York is the professional membership organization of choice for attorneys, both men and women, throughout the state. Its more than 3800 members in all legal fields are committed to the association's mission of the promotion of justice for women in the legal profession and for women, children and families in society, support of the fair administration of justice and to act as a unified voice for its members on issues of statewide, national and international significance to women generally and to women attorneys in particular. WBASNY also holds United Nations NGO status in association with the UN Department of Public Information and Special Consultative status in association with the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

CORRECTION

The recent letter to members with the application misspelled Linda Morrone's name.

Our apologies.

COMMUNITY

Breast Cancer Alert

Each year, in conjunction with the Women in the Court's Committee, members of our organization pass our valuable information concerning breast cancer at the courthouses in Central Islip and Riverhead. It is a very important tool to get information out to people who often cannot get to a doctor or are afraid to go. We need volunteers to spend just an hour or so passing out the information. It is a rewarding experience. If you have ever known someone with breast cancer, you often feel helpless. But this can be your chance to make sure that someone else gets information that could potentially save their lives. Please call Janessa Trotto at 631.589.5000 if you can donate an hour of your time.

Mentoring a Student

If you are a Touro Law alumni and would like to participate as an alumni mentor for a second-, third- or fourth-year law student in the 2010-2011 Upper Division Alumni-Student Mentor Program and/or serve as a mentor in our First-Year Alumni-Student Mentor Program, please contact Kristen Matthews at kmatthews@toulaw.edu.

WBASNY Convention 2011

It may seem like Convention 2010 was just last week, but plans are already well underway for Convention 2011! The Convention Committee needs you to help mark 30-ONE-derful years of WBASNY!

Wouldn't it be fun to plan a party for 250 of your closest friends? We need people who can coordinate CLE, help us raise sponsorships and donations, find and arrange for vendors, plan our dinners, help with our journal and so much more—there's clearly a job for every interest!

We'll be meeting at the September WBASNY Board meeting, but planning starts even sooner. Please consider volunteering some time to make this year's Convention the best ever!

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Convention Committee Co-Chairs Amy Baldwin Littman at amy@ablittman.com and/or Rebecca Baldwin Mantello at rmantello@tclmm.com.

Want to get LinkedIn?

The SCWBA now has a LinkedIn group that is open to our members. Please visit www.linkedin.com and search "Suffolk County Women's Bar Association" and request to join. It's yet another way to keep in touch.

Attorney Resources

NYSBA Lawyer Assistance program assists members of the legal profession affected by alcoholism, drug abuse, stress, depression and mental health issues. Confidential helpline 800-255-0569 or lap@nysba.org.

Among Us

Long time Association and Board member Justice Salvatore A. Alamia will be retiring at the end of the year and a party will be held in his honor at Captain Bill's, Bay Shore, on November 17, 2010.

Condolences to Nicole Zuvich on the passing of her grandfather on June 23rd and to Lisa S. Fine, on the passing of her father on June 19.

Ideas for Going Green

- » Communicate via e-mail rather than traditional mail or memos
- » Only print e-mails when absolutely necessary
- » Reduce the size of your typeface on all documents
- » Make two-sided copies
- » Use recycled paper
- » Use signage that can be reused in the future
- » Eliminate plastic water bottles at meetings
- » Recycle used paper into notepads
- » Use the backs of handouts for notes
- » Carpool to meetings

SAVE THE DATE!



2010

**FRIDAY
SEPTEMBER
10**

ELDER LAW & ESTATE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING 8:30AM
Jefferson's Ferry, One Jefferson Ferry Drive, South Setauket. RSVP Nicole Zuvich at 516/505-1780 or Nicole_Zuvich@yahoo.com
ADDITIONAL MEETING DATES: Oct 8, Nov 12, Dec 10.

**THURSDAY
SEPTEMBER
16**

LIHBA/TOURO LAW SCHOOL PRESENTATION 6:00PM-9:00PM
"The Immigration Reform Debate: Getting Beyond the Rhetoric". More info: Richard J. Montes, Esq., at 516/487.5800.

**WEDNESDAY
SEPTEMBER
22**

SCWBA NETWORKING LUNCHEON 12:45PM - 2:15PM
Shandon Court Restaurant, 115 E. Main St., East Islip. \$20 per person. RSVP Margery Weinroth at 516/799.4668
ADDITIONAL LUNCHEON DATES: Nov 10

**TUESDAY
SEPTEMBER
28**

MATRIMONIAL/FAMILY LAW COMMITTEE MEETING 5:30PM
Janis Noto's office, 134 4th Avenue, Bay Shore. RSVP Janis Noto at 631/666-8755.

**WEDNESDAY
SEPTEMBER
29**

NASSAU SUFFOLK LEGAL SERVICES WINE TASTING EVENT 6:00PM-9:00PM
The Carlton in Eisenhower Park, East Meadow. \$50.00 per ticket. Tickets available online at www.nslawservices.org, or contact Sheila Johnson at 631/232.2400 x3322.

**THURSDAY
SEPTEMBER
30**

VIBS 15TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING
Huntington Crescent Club in Huntington. More info: VIBS, 631/360-3730.
LEGAL EDUCATION SEMINAR ON FORECLOSURES 6PM at the Suffolk County Bar Association. More info: Richard J. Montes, Esq., at 516/487.5800.

**WEDNESDAY
OCTOBER
20**

SCWBA MEETING (location TBD)
Please contact President, Shari Lee Sugarman, Esq. if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions for meetings/CLE.
ADDITIONAL MEETING DATES: Nov 18 (East End). Coming up: Holiday Party (date TBD).

**THURSDAY
NOVEMBER
4**

WOUNDED WARRIOR PROJECT 2ND ANNUAL GOLF OUTING
Pelham Bay and Split Rock Golf Course. Contact Nicole Zuvich at 516/505.1780 or Nicole_Zuvich@yahoo.com.
LIHBA MEETING 6PM at Rivkin Radler. More info: Richard J. Montes, Esq., at 516/487.5800.

**WEDNESDAY
NOVEMBER
17**

RETIREMENT PARTY: JUDGE ALAMIA 6:00PM-10:00PM
Captain Bills, Bay Shore. More info: contact Kelly McCormack-Honey at 631/853-4915.

**THURSDAY
DECEMBER
9**

LIHBA MEETING 6PM at the Suffolk County Bar Association. More info: Richard J. Montes, Esq., at 516/487.5800.

Margery Weinroth presented awards to our Scholarship Winners: Katie Harrison of St. John's Law School, Megan Tomlin of Touro Law Center and Emily Rothenberg of Hofstra Law (not present).

Joan McNichol gave a moving memorial tribute to our dear past member Hon. Ann Mead, and announced that our Association would be instituting an Award in her honor. Photos of Anne's service to the public, community and WBASNY was displayed in her memory.

Outgoing President Janessa M. Trotto thanked everyone for their cooperation over the past year. She stressed that through the hard work and cooperation of many, our Association events and endeavors

were a great success. It looks like we are off to a wonderful start for our Association's next 25 years!!!

Incoming Officers, Directors and WBASNY Delegates and Alternates were installed by Hon. Sandra L. Sgroi, Associate Justice of the New York Supreme Court, Appellate Division, Second Judicial Department. Justice Sgroi delivered the keynote address highlighting the progress made by women attorneys and judges over the years the Association has been in existence; and noted that many male colleagues have been active members and served on the board over the years. She encouraged and inspired us to move forward with our mission and activities.

Incoming President Shari Lee Sugarman was sworn on by Hon.

Salvatore Alamia, one of her most inspiring law school professors. President Sugarman thanked and introduced her family and friends; and outlined some of her goals and proposed programs for the upcoming year. These include the continuation of our traditional events and activities, as well as establishment of a charitable foundation, enhancement of our website and technological capabilities, and increased pro bono/law clinic activities.



The evening was huge success and we thank Justice Sgroi, Justice McNulty, and Judge Alamia for their participation, as well as all of the Judges and Justices who attended.

SURVIVING THE LEGAL PRACTICE

By Sonia Munoz Gallagher



Time is constantly ticking isn't it? Doesn't it seem to get even faster when you walk into your office? Competition for solo practitioners and law firm associates is only getting tougher each month as more lawyers lose their jobs.

So, how can you stand out? How can you differentiate yourself, be profitable, and truly enjoy being a lawyer?

As lawyers, we often see clients with issues that could have easily been prevented. We can learn from their mistakes to avoid these issues for ourselves. Though some days may seem like the world is against you, there are specific things we should always keep in mind. If opposing counsel yells at you on the phone, your paralegal gives you an attitude, or a client refuses to pay for work you've already done, always remember these 6 rules for the firm.

These 6 rules enable you to get more work done, keep you from getting a bad reputation, and allow you to be a happier lawyer.

1. Listen. How often do you truly listen? Paying close attention to your colleagues and staff can give you a wealth of knowledge. It allows you to have your finger on the dial. You can find out about issues, concerns, and developments going on in your own practice. Don't lock yourself up in your office. You can miss really important information about things going on around you. The information you miss can be incredibly helpful for your professional development, partnership potential, or change of employment.

2. Take a breath. We are known for liking to hear our own voices. Be careful not to say whatever pops into your mind, unless you want to take the risk of having to explain it later. This may happen at the worst possible time- like when you are up for a review or promotion to partnership. Think about the way you say things too.

3. Your beliefs become your reality. You are the captain of your own thoughts. The only thing in life that you have complete control over is your own thoughts. Yet, so many of us find it extremely difficult to control our thinking patterns. The easiest way to change this is to take 10 minute silence breaks each day. This can be done anywhere and at any time. Doing this frequently empowers you to be able to recognize negative thoughts for what they are, acknowledge and let them pass, and not be affected by them.

4. Patience is a virtue. Patience is one of the key elements to being an effective lawyer. After all, we work with a wide variety of cases and personalities each day. It's easy to see how we can lose it at some point. Remember, you can be

patient and strong. In the practice of law more than any other profession, it's extremely important to keep your cool. Think about it. How quickly will you be at risk of losing a client or losing a case if you get affected by every little thing that people say or do to you? Don't give anyone else that much control over you.

5. Lend a hand. Try not to be territorial in defining your work from the work of others around you. If you face an opportunity to be helpful, do it. Not only will it make you feel great to be useful, it reflects that you are willing to collaborate and go the extra mile - An attorney to watch come promotion time.

6. A moment. Sometimes the stress can get the best of us. The key thing to keep in mind when we face a difficult case, client, or situation is that it is only a moment in our life. Like all other moments, it too will soon pass. Remembering this can be the key to a profitable and balanced practice.

Apply these tips to your professional and personal life as often as possible. Before you know it they will become second nature and won't require any effort from you at all.

Sonia Munoz Gallagher, Esq. is an attorney, trainer, and executive coach for lawyers at Time for Life, LLC. She works with lawyers nation-wide helping them to steer the direction of their careers and create sustainable practices reflective of their values. She also trains individual lawyers and law firms on the implementation of strategies to get more clients, more profits, and more free time. Contact her today for more information on how she can work with your Firm or to schedule a complimentary coaching session with her at [www. TimeForLifeNow.com](http://www.TimeForLifeNow.com).

WBASNY CHAPTER LEADERS HEAD BACK TO SCHOOL

By Shari Lee Sugarman

School started early this year for me as the new President. Over the summer, I went to a leadership training hosted by the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York (WBASNY). I met with WBASNY and chapter leaders on July 17th and 18th for a weekend of education and enjoyment at Kaatskill Mountain Club in Hunter, New York. Along with the other chapters' presidents, I learned time-tested tips for leading our chapters and for making the most of our involvement with WBASNY. Topics for the presidents' training included the following: (1) meeting planning and organization, (2) membership development, (3) press and public relations, (4) committee management; and (5) WBASNY history. Between training sessions, I had an opportunity to visit with other chapter presidents and current and former WBASNY officers over meals and during our free time at the resort. We even celebrated the passage of the new "No Fault" Divorce statute in the State Legislature. It was really a great experience.

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10 YEARS AND COUNTING...

It's hard to believe that we are entering our tenth year of Suffolk County Women's Bar Association networking luncheons. What started out in 2001 as an innovation has become an integral part of our programming. For those of you who have never attended a SCWBA networking luncheon...we get together usually five times a year in a congenial and informal setting, where our members and guests socialize, trade "war stories" and enjoy a delicious lunch. Attendees include attorneys in private practice, the public sector, judges and "honorary" members in the educational community. We do not have formal speakers but occasionally we invite a "special guest" with an interesting background or story to tell. Among our "special guests" have been attorneys who have practiced in England and Japan and the directors of the Friends for Life (breast cancer aid and networking organization).

Networking luncheons are held five times a year, usually in September, November, January, March and April. Initially the luncheons were held at the Culinary Arts Institute Restaurant in Central Islip. However, two years ago the Culinary Arts dining room was closed to the

public and we began to hold our luncheons at Shandon Court Restaurant in East Islip. The response to the new venue has been very positive.

March's luncheon is always held at an "East End" restaurant. We do this to enable our "East End" Members to enjoy an event which is usually impractical for them to attend because of the travel time involved,

April's luncheon is traditionally held on "Professional Assistant's Day" to allow our Members to say thanks to their office personnel by taking them to lunch in a convivial atmosphere. This has become a sell-out affair!

We always welcome your comments and suggestions. If you'd like to bring or suggest we invite a "special guest" whose vocation or avocation might be of special interest to our members, please let us know.

PLEASE INVITE A POTENTIAL MEMBER TO ATTEND SO THAT HE/SHE MAY EXPERIENCE ONE OF THE BENEFITS OF BEING A SCWBA MEMBER!

We look forward to having lunch with you.

Co-Chairpersons
Margery Weinroth 516 799-4668
Kathy Small 631 360-0600

Suffolk County Women's Bar Association 2010/2011 Newsletter Advertising Rates

Newsletters are published every other month, from September to June (September, November, January, March, and May).

Deadlines for ads are the 15th of the month prior to publication.

Business card ad	size: 3½" x 2"	\$ 20.00 per issue
Quarter page ad	size: 3¾" x 4½"	\$ 40.00 per issue
Half page ad	size: 7¾" x 4½"	\$ 75.00 per issue
Full page ad	size: 7¾" x 9¾"	\$125.00 per issue

Please send copy to Nicole Zuvich at nicole_zuvich@yahoo.com in Word, .pdf, .jpeg, .rtf, or .tif format.

Please send check to: Karyn A. Villar, Esq. 33 Kings Highway, Hauppauge, New York 11788
Any questions, please call Nicole Zuvich at 516/505-1780

SUFFOLK V. NASSAU - IT'S A CHALLENGE!!!!

By Shari Lee Sugarman

The SCWBA and the NCWBA have challenged each other to a duel – a membership duel, that is. Declining membership is a continuing concern for both our organizations. Although we remain a strong voice in the County and in WBASNY, our chapters lose delegates each year when we lose members. So, at leadership training in July, Barbara Gervase, President of Nassau County WBA and I, came up with a plan to see which organization could increase their membership. So, the winner is the organization which has the highest increase by percentage by the January 30, 2011 certification date for WBASNY.

What is at stake? We have agreed that the "Loser" (Nassau??) will make a charitable donation to the "Winner's" choice of charity. And more importantly, we get bragging rights. Yes, if we win, we can stand up and be proud of yourself as a group – that if we put our minds to something, we can do it!!!

What do we need to do? It's easy. Each one of us needs to bring in one new member this year, or get someone to renew if they weren't sure they were going to renew. Carry around a blank application and pass it out at a closing to the other attorney. Talk up our organization and get people interested. Bring a potential member to the networking luncheons or a meeting. I have already brought 3 or 4 new members into the "fold" this summer alone.

Why? So we can make our organization the best it can be – and we can only do that by getting new blood into the organization!

So, make it a point to talk to the next ten attorneys you meet about the group, and why they should join. Together we can beat Nassau!



Past-President, Janessa Trotto, and other SCWBA members joined judges, other elected officials, agency heads, attorneys and court employees at the summer Bagels & Books Celebration at the EAC Children's Center at the Cohalan Courthouse in Central Islip. The seasonal event highlights the Center's literacy efforts which include encouraging children to read and presenting visiting children with a brand new age appropriate book. The Suffolk County Women's Bar Association has supported this mission for many years and was recognized at the event for its recent donations and support. Anyone wishing to donate a new book may drop it off at the center or contact any SCWBA Board Member.

KATHY B. SMALL

TIMOTHY F. MAZZARA

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THE SCWBA AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS TO HOFSTRA, TOURO AND ST. JOHN'S LAW STUDENTS

In January, 2010 the Suffolk County Women's Bar Association announced its scholarship contest for the year 2010. Students at Hofstra University School of Law, Touro College Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center School of Law and St. John's University School of Law were invited to submit essays describing a female role model, how that role model's values and/or life experiences helped shape their goals and how they planned to translate those goals into making an impact as an attorney.

A Scholarship Committee consisting of Janessa Trotto, Margery Weinroth, Patricia Manzo, Nicole Zuvich and Linda Kevins was formed to review the essays submitted and choose the winning essays.

Essays were to be in 500 words or less and the essay chosen from each school earned its author a \$500 cash award, and a one year membership in the SCWBA after graduation (law school memberships are always available at no cost). After thorough review and discussion, essays written by the following students were chosen:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Hofstra University School of Law | Emily Rothenberg |
| St. John's University School of Law | Katie Harrison |
| Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center | Megan Tomlin |
| School of Law | |

Katie and Megan attended the Installation Dinner held in June as guests of the SCWBA, where they received their cash awards and plaques commemorating their accomplishment. Thanks to the SCWBA school liaisons for their assistance.

Margery Weinroth, Chairperson, SCWBA Scholarship Committee

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WHY WBASNY?

By Shari Lee Sugarman

As most of you know, the SCWBA is a chapter of a much larger organization known as the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York, or affectionately known as WBASNY. But most of our members are not familiar with what WBASNY offers them. A strong voice in state politics is the first thing that comes to mind. WBASNY was sought after and offered strong advice in the passage of the No-Fault Divorce statute that was just signed by Governor Patterson (see other article in this newsletter). Additionally, WBASNY is one of three state bar associations who do the judicial screening for Judges being appointed to the Court of Appeals. It has a strong legislative voice for issues that affect women, children and families.

If you need to find an attorney in upstate, you can search through the members' profiles. For a nominal fee, you can place your profile and link to your website right on the WBASNY website. The WBASNY Professional Ethics Committee has a hotline. If you are a WBASNY member and have a question regarding ethical issues, you can call (914) 472-9517 after 6:00 p.m. (weekdays).

And through WBASNY, our chapter is able to offer substantial benefits to our members - from CLE (WBASNY is a certified accredited MCLE provider in the State of New York. All eighteen chapters of the Association offer Continuing Legal Education programs throughout the year that are presented by knowledgeable legal professionals and highly regarded subject experts and teaching specialists) to personal and pet insurance to financial services for yourself and staff and beyond.

There is so much that WBASNY can offer you. The benefits are too numerous - simply go to www.wbasny.bluestep.net to discover everything available to you at no extra charge, just simply by being a member of the SCWBA.

SCWBA SPONSORS 2ND ANNUAL VETERANS EVENT

On July 24, 2010, the Elder Law and Estate Planning Committee of the Suffolk County Women's Bar Association sponsored the 2nd annual Veterans Celebration at the Long Island State Veterans Home in Stony Brook. Prior to the event, the Committee held an essay contest titled, "Hero in Service, Hero at Home." The winner of the essay contest was honored with a Proclamation in the name of the Veteran. This year's winner was Lisa Fine, Esq. whose moving words about her father brought the room to tears. Congressman Tim Bishop was in attendance and awarded the Proclamation to Ms. Fine.

The Congressman also presented Smith, Esq. and Nicole J. Zuvich, Esq. Congressional Recognition for sponsoring Friendly's and music was provided the goal of the Elder Law and Estate this event at least once a year and men and women of our military.



Melissa Negrin-Wiener, Esq., Kim each with a Certificate of Special Con- the event. Ice cream was donated by by the ever-popular, Banjo Bob. It is Planning Committee to continue to never forget the sacrifices of the



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