

TCWLA LEGAL MATTERS

A PUBLICATION OF THE TRAVIS COUNTY WOMEN LAWYERS' ASSOCIATION

November is Breast Cancer awareness month!

- ⌘ Race for the Cure: Join TEAM TCWLA – Sunday, November 5
- ⌘ November Luncheon CLE: Lawyers for Women Fighting Breast Cancer – Estate Planning for Clients with Serious Illnesses
- ⌘ TEAM TCWLA T-shirts \$10 – all proceeds benefit the Susan G. Komen Foundation

Lawyers for Women Fighting Breast Cancer:

Join TCWLA in our new pilot project benefiting women with breast cancer: **Lawyers for Women Fighting Breast Cancer.** Judge Susan Whitman and Attorney Holly Gillman will provide an overview of estate planning, probate, and guardianship for attorneys representing low income clients with a serious illness. It will also provide attorneys with the documents necessary to protect the healthcare rights and property of these clients during any period of incapacity and to ensure the fulfillment of the clients wishes concerning property distribution and care of minor children after death. The course will conclude with a brief description of some simple probate procedures that can effectuate the estate plans of these clients. This course has been approved for 1 hour of CLE credit!

After a successful start last year, TCWLA will continue collecting items each month at the membership meetings to donate to local charities assisting women and children in Travis County. Each quarter, we will choose a new charity. For the months of September, October, and November, we will be accepting donations of nonperishable foods for the Capital Area Food Bank (CAFB).

Don't Miss Inside:

- A Message From the President *page 2*
- Important Proposed Amendment to Bylaws *page 2*
- October Luncheon Recap *page 3*
- Volunteer Opportunities- AYL-TCWLA-VLS Domestic Violence Project and Lawyers for Women Fighting Breast Cancer *page 3*
- Race for the Cure *page 4*
- WLC Mixer *page 4*
- TCWLA Holiday Party Information *page 5*
- Meet your Member: Jenny Lloyd *page 5*
- Pick Me! Volunteer Opportunity *page 6*
- Women's Legislative Days *page 6*
- Calendar of Events *page 7*
- Announcements *page 7*
- Advertisements *page 8*
- Lawyers for Women Fighting Breast Cancer Attorney Sign Up Form *page 9*

November 2006

⌘ **Lawyers for Women
Fighting Breast
Cancer – Estate
Planning for Clients
with Serious Illnesses
Presented by
Judge Susan Whitman
and
Attorney Holly Gillman**

Date: November 15, 2006

Time: 11:45 - 1:00 p.m.

**Location: Austin Bar
Association Office
816 Congress Avenue
(NEW LOCATION)**

CLE: 1.0

**Be Sure to Bring a
Business Card**

Menu: Pork tenderloin with chipotle raspberry sauce, accompanied by a mixed greens salad with cranberries, bleu cheese and walnuts, and a south-west pasta salad. Cookies and dessert bars, bread and iced tea

Don't forget your canned food items!

Cost of lunch is \$15 for everyone.

Cost of CLE for members: FREE

Cost of CLE nonmember: \$15

Cost of membership: \$20 prorated for rest of 2006.

TO RESERVE A LUNCH, YOU MUST RSVP NO LATER THAN **November 10th to tcwlaorg@gmail.com**. We cannot provide lunch if we don't know that you are coming! You are always welcome to attend and brown bag your lunch if you forget to RSVP. Please remember also that **no-shows will be billed**.



FROM THE PRESIDENT

November 2006

I have been thinking about the power and comfort of teamwork lately.

My colleagues at work met for a nationwide company retreat last week. We shared stories of our experiences and agreed to team up on projects, which is fairly unusual in the competitive recruiting industry. We left the retreat with a renewed energy for our day-to-day work and a new set of friends with whom to celebrate or commiserate about the many ups and downs of our job.

My daughter turned three last week. We threw a party... but she is three so she threw temper tantrums... the whole time. Despite the drama due to a certain someone's disrupted nap, we left the party with grateful and happy hearts. Grateful for the closeness of our own personal team of family and friends, and happy from the stubborn fun of a party in the shadows of toddlerhood.

TCWLA and the Women's Law Caucus of UT Law came together for a mixer. We talked, ate, drank, watched spinning fire (what?! yes — see page 4) and had a great time. Some of us left with the reassurance that there is life after final exams and others of us left with the reassurance that we aren't as necessarily as old as we sometimes feel and that our life experiences, good or bad, can be relevant, comforting and/or amusing to others. Maybe.

Portia and I recently met with leaders of local minority bar organizations. We discussed our plans for the year and ideas for how to team up to further each other's missions. We left the meeting with a slew of ideas for collaboration as well as new resources and strength behind our respective projects.

Team TCWLA convenes several times this month and we invite you to join us and find your own power and comfort in our teamwork.

November is the month when TCWLA is focusing on breast cancer issues — as women, as people touched by the disease directly or indirectly, as attorneys, as public servants. Team TCWLA will walk together in the Race for the Cure on November 5th and we will continue to accept donations for the cause online throughout the month. Lawyers for Women Fighting Breast Cancer, our pro bono outreach initiative spearheaded by Portia Bosse is kicking off this month. Our November 15th general membership meeting will dovetail with that initiative and teach us how to do estate planning for clients with serious illnesses.

In this month of thanksgiving, I am thankful for the energy, the community, the comfort of teamwork. Come, join us and add Team TCWLA to your thanksgiving list too.

Warmest Regards,

Joelle Boehle
TCWLA President

NOTICE TO MEMBERSHIP

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO BYLAWS OF TCWLA

The following amendment will be presented at the General Membership Meeting scheduled for November 15, 2006, to reinstate the Continuing Legal Education Chairperson(s) as voting members of the Board:

Article IV – Officers and Directors, 4.1 The Directors of the Association shall be:

- (1) President
- (2) President-elect
- (3) Secretary
- (4) Treasurer
- (5) Communications Chairperson(s)
- (6) Continuing Legal Education Chairperson(s)
- (7) Activities Chairperson(s)
- ~~(7)~~(8) Membership Chairperson(s)
- ~~(8)~~(9) Immediate Past President

October Luncheon Recap:



TCWLA thanks our October meeting panelists (Linda Shaunessy/AG's office, Julie Springer/Scott Douglass, Jennifer Poppe/Vinson & Elkins and Erin Kitchen/Dell). We enjoyed their presentation about FMLA and maternity leave issues in the workplace. Thanks also to all of you who attended the meeting and shared your personal stories, concerns and tips. TCWLA provides a terrific forum for such helpful discussions and a support network for those of us who are going through major family and career decisions and negotiations. One way to continue this dialogue with the TCWLA community is on our TCWLA List Server. Contact Laurie Higginbotham at lhigginbotham@govtclaim.com if you haven't already signed up for the List Server.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR AYL-TCWLA-VLS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROJECT

Would you like to make a lasting difference and help someone in need start building a new life? AYL and the Travis County Women Lawyers' Association is partnering with Volunteer Legal Services for the fourth year of the Domestic Violence Project. Volunteers are needed to handle 2 domestic violence divorce cases on an emergency basis over 2007. "Emergency basis" means a case that needs a response within two weeks, and VLS will attempt to work around your schedule as requested. Participants will be trained by VLS domestic violence experts, and will be given a list of family law mentors that they can call with questions. We need at least 10 volunteer attorneys for this project. Please contact Laurie Higginbotham at lhigginbotham@govtclaim.com if you are interested in participating.

LAWYERS FOR WOMEN FIGHTING BREAST CANCER

Lawyers for Women Fighting Breast Cancer, an initiative sponsored by the Travis County Women Lawyers Association in partnership with Volunteer Legal Services of Central Texas and the William Wayne Justice Center for Public Interest Law at the University of Texas School of Law, provides free legal services to low-income women diagnosed with breast cancer.

These women will be identified with the help of existing and future grantees of the Austin Affiliate of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. Initially, Lawyers for Women Fighting

Breast Cancer will work with Community Action, Inc, a Komen Austin grant recipient that helps women with breast cancer get much needed medical treatment. Lawyers for Women Fighting Breast Cancer will find pro bono attorneys for income-eligible Community Action, Inc. clients with civil legal issues that have developed as a result of being diagnosed with breast cancer. The goal is to provide pro bono legal services to all low-income clients of Komen Austin grantees.

The Travis County Women Lawyers Association will promote this initiative to lawyers in the Travis County area

including its membership and recruit attorney volunteers for this project. Volunteer Legal Services will process all applications for legal services, assign volunteering attorneys to cases, maintain contact with client and attorney throughout the case, maintain contact with client and attorney throughout the case, and provide malpractice insurance. Finally, the William Wayne Justice Center for Public Interest Law will recruit students to work with volunteer attorneys on these pro bono cases.



The 2006 Race for the Cure is this Sunday. You can still sign up to be a part of the TCWLA Team at Runtex on S 1st Street. Can't join? You can still go to the website, www.komenaustin.org, and make a donation to the TCWLA Team.

Team TCWLA is meeting next to the Stevie Ray Vaughn Statue at 7:30 on race day, November 5th.

Presented by 

NATIONAL SERIES SPONSORS:



Coldwater Creek



NATIONAL SERIES HONORARY CHAIR: FRANCIE LARRIEU SMITH

Sunday, November 5, 2006



WLC MIXER: TCWLA thanks all of you who attended our mixer with the Women's Law Caucus of UT Law in October. The food and conversation were terrific and we look forward to future mentoring relationships with the women of UT Law. Please contact Liz Branch at branch@mericabourland.com to volunteer as a mentor. A very special thank you to Brenda Collier, our gracious hostess, for opening her amazing home to us. Another special thanks to Rob Mockley, Brenda Collier's son (pictured above), and Niki Acosta, who provided some unexpected entertainment at the end of the event. Rob and Niki spin fire! It was a sight to behold on the front steps of Brenda's home. We are told they can spin glow sticks and LED lights to for indoor performances and Rob is also a DJ (robmockley@gmail.com). Anyone up for another party?

The TCWLA Holiday Party

Date: Wednesday, December 6

Time: 5:30 to 7:30 pm

Location: I7+D, an interior design and gift store on Colorado between Second and Third.

We'll have lots of food and holiday revelry, a wine tasting with a knowledgeable wine guide, and the surrounding shops of the Second Street District will be open for everyone's holiday shopping needs.

Hope to see everyone there!

TCWLA Member Profile: Jenny Lloyd



Employer: DLA Piper US LLP.

I joined Gray Cary in May 2004, and the firm then merged to create DLA Piper in January 2005. DLA Piper is one of the three largest firms in the world, with 3,200 lawyers located in 24 countries and 62 offices in Europe, Asia, and the U.S.

Practice area: Commercial and general civil litigation, primarily in state and federal courts in Texas. My practice areas include securities law, class actions, intellectual property, contract actions, and business torts, for public and private companies, including several Austin-based technology companies.

Education and Background: I graduated from Brown University in 1994 with a degree in Latin American Studies and Theater Arts. I moved from New England to Texas after graduation, fell in love with Austin, and stayed for graduate school. I graduated from UT Law in 1999, then spent one year clerking for Judge Barefoot Sanders in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas. I joined Austin litigation boutique George & Donaldson, LLP after my clerkship, then after a three month sabbatical where I traveled through Vietnam, Cambodia, and Thailand, I joined my current firm.

Family: My husband of four and a half years, Jeff Miller, is an attorney at Minton Burton Foster and Collins PC. We are expecting our first child in February 2007. We also have a very sweet, but not very smart, ten-year-old yellow lab named Sassy.

Hobbies, et cetera: I have traveled solo throughout Central and South America, and parts of Asia. I love to scuba dive (unfortunately, impossible in my current condition). About four years ago, I started running and doing triathlons and have now run six marathons (Austin three times, San Diego, New York, and London), and at least a dozen sprint triathlons.

Pick Me!

Judge Lora Livingston and Leslie Dippel are co-chairing the award-winning project, Pick Me! A Jury of My Peers. As many of you know, the program involves a three-day curriculum which includes the history of the jury system on Day 1, a mock voir dire conducted by attorneys and judges on Day 2, and a video trial on Day 3.

There are still several openings for the weeks of November 6 through November 9 and November 13 through November 17 for the Day 2 mock voir dire. Please visit our Web site to view the available volunteer slots and to sign up online: <http://www.austinbar.org/pickmecalendar.shtml>

If you have not participated in this project before, the program materials are available online: <http://www.austinbar.org/pickmematerials.shtml> or, if you would

prefer, the Austin Bar will deliver hard copies of the materials to your office.

Please feel free to contact staff members Kat Hinson or Jenny Mitschke at 472-0279 with questions

Please pass this along to all of your particular circles of influence and let everyone at your firm or organization know of this volunteer opportunity.

****SAVE THE DATES****

Women's Legislative Days



***Uniting Women
for Fairness & Equality
January 28-30, 2007***

Woodward Hotel & Conference Center
3401 S. IH-35 Austin, TX

www.txwld.org • info@txwld.org

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***Uniting Women
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www.txwld.org • info@txwld.org

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 5th	8 am	Race for the Cure
November 7th	All Day	Election Day. Get out and vote!!
November 13th	9 am-1pm	Color of Justice Program-UT Law (Email Liz Branch for Details)
November 15th	11:45-1pm	TCWLA membership meeting (ABA Offices-816 Congress)
December 6th	5:30-7:30 pm	TCWLA Holiday Party at IF + D

Announcements

Have something you want to share with membership? Let us know!

Member Book Recommendations:

Encyclopedia of an Ordinary Life, by Amy Krouse Rosenthal (a nonfiction, pseudo-memoir in the format of an encyclopedia — very funny and easy to read — it even has pictures by an encyclopedia illustrator).

Straight Up and Dirty, by Stephanie Klein Celebrated blogger, photographer, and freelance writer Stephanie Tara Klein lets it all hang out in this juicy tell-all tracing her jump back into single life following her divorce. On the dating advice of her therapist, Klein attempts to keep “a pair and a spare” of men always on hand and has lots of bawdy fun along the way. But when the anniversary of the devastating breakup from her “wasband” forces her to revisit what happened, she finds herself wanting more than her therapist’s recommended gimmick to keep her emotionally safe.

From Paris to the Moon by Adam Gopnik

In 1995, Gopnik, a writer for the *New Yorker* was offered a plush assignment of writing in Paris. He moved there for five years with his wife and young son Luke and wrote a diary that became this book about their time in Paris. Gopnik captures the simple romance of the city through the eyes of a young family. Makes traveling to Europe with young kids seem almost like a good idea... Well, almost.

TEAM TCWLA T-shirts \$10 – all proceeds benefit the Susan G. Komen Foundation

The Texas State Teachers Association is searching for a staff attorney to represent members in school board hearings, admin. hearings, and in trial and appellate courts across the state, and to perform general legal and organizational duties as assigned. Travel required. Eng. and Spanish, and 1-3 years of lit. and/or school law exp., greatly preferred. \$4800+ mo., D.O.E.; great benefits. A letter and resume must be received by 11-10-06. Send to Yolandak@TSTA.org.

Appellate attorney (former appellate brief-writer for City of New Orleans before Katrina) with 15 years experience looking for contract, part-time, or full-time work in Texas. Experienced in ethics consultation/grievance representation and employment law. Top 3% J.D. class; LL.M. – UC Berkeley. Admitted in LA, TX, US 5th and US Supreme Court. 512/804-1985 or debhenson.austin2006@gmail.com

Ellen Stewart is moving to :
Barnes & Karisch PC
2901-D Bee Caves Rd
Austin, Texas 78746
328-8355 (work)
328-8413(fax)
stewart@texasprobate.com

New TCWLA member Susanna Holt married Chris Cutrone on Sunday, October 8, 2006, at The Austin Museum of Art - Laguna Gloria. Susanna is an Assistant General Counsel at the Texas Workforce Commission and Chris works as a Deputy Press Secretary for the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Seeking TCWLA CLE Co-Chair and Historian!!

Contact Joelle Boehle if you are interested.

Joelle@KinneyRecruiting.com

State Bar Building is under construction from November through most of January, so we can't use their space until that's done.

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What's Going On?

If you are an attorney, or legal professional who has recently changed jobs, opened up a new office, received an award, or hired new staff...we want to know what's going on.

Please e-mail tcwlaorg@gmail.com with your announcements and photos.



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Vacant

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**LAWYERS FOR WOMEN FIGHTING BREAST CANCER
ATTORNEY VOLUNTEER SIGNUP FORM**

**A Project of Travis County Women Lawyers' Association in Partnership with Volunteer Legal Services and the
William Wayne Justice Public Policy Center at the University of Texas School of Law**

Volunteer Attorney: _____ *Bar No.* _____

Firm: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ **Fax:** _____ **e-mail** _____

_____ **I am a member of Travis County Women Lawyers Association**

Note: Our Case Referral Coordinator will call to discuss individual referrals with you.

I will accept pro bono cases in the following areas of law:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| _____ Bankruptcy | _____ General Litigation | _____ Probate |
| _____ Consumer | _____ Guardianships | _____ Real Estate |
| _____ Debt Collection Defense | _____ Housing | _____ Social Security Benefits |
| _____ Education | _____ Insurance | _____ Tax |
| _____ Employment Problems | _____ Landlord/Tenant | _____ Torts Defense |
| _____ Family Law | _____ License Revocation | _____ Wills |
| | | _____ Wills, Homebound |

_____ I am willing to mentor a UT Law Student assigned to help with a case.

_____ I am willing to keep pro bono cases on my personal docket routinely. When I close a case or a case is inactive, you may call me to take another.

_____ **I speak Spanish fluently.**

Comments: _____

PLEASE RETURN FORM TO:
Volunteer Legal Services of Central Texas
816 Congress Avenue, Suite 701, Austin, TX 78701
Fax: (512) 322-0764
e-mail: akmeyers@vlsoc.org

QUESTIONS? Contact Anna K. Meyers
(512) 476-5550, ext. 304
akmeyers@vlsoc.org