



TCWLA

Travis County Women Lawyers' Association

Legal Matters

February 2010

We have a new logo compliments of Peevy Media. They shared their talents and time with our organization, and we are thrilled with the results.

TCWLA is your organization, and the Board welcomes your comments and suggestions at tcwlaorg@gmail.com

Pathfinders Lunch an Inspiration

All who attended TCWLA's 2010 Pathfinder's Lunch were not disappointed. Everyone left inspired by the examples set by this year's honorees and filled with a lovely meal at Carmelo's. The meeting began with an open session for networking and catching up. Then, our Pathfinders Judge Suzanne Covington, Dr. Lynda Frost, Justice Eva

Guzman, and Jeana Lungwitz shared stories, advice, and lessons-learned from their distinguished careers. Each speaker shared her individual perspective on the role public service has played in her professional and personal lives. The honorees' remarks were followed by a lively question and answer session.



2010 Distinguished Pathfinders shared lunch and stories with members last month

Important Dates to Remember

February 19	Texas Women Lawyers CLE; Downtown Houston	(713) 358-1733
February 25	Judicial Reception at Green Pastures	5:30
March 5	TCWLA CLE- Lessons from FLDS Intervention	(half-day CLE)
March 24	Monthly General Meeting Guantanamo Bay CLE	11:45-1:00
March 27	Women's Resource Fair	TBA
April 21	Monthly General Meeting Supreme Court Update	11:45-1:00
May 3	Take Your Daughters to Work Day	8:30-1:00
May 13	Grants and Awards Luncheon	12:00-1:00
June 16	Next Year's Board Elections	11:45-1:00

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From Your President Elizabeth Poole

Who can believe it's already February? TCWLA kicks off the calendar year with two wonderful events: the Pathfinders' Luncheon and the Judicial Reception. Last month we had a great luncheon at Carmelo's. Our 2010 Pathfinders, Judge Suzanne Covington, Dr. Lynda Frost, Justice Eva Guzman and Jeana Lungwitz, were inspiring and entertaining.

On February 25 we invite you to another opportunity to honor members of our local legal community: Our annual Judicial Reception. Please join us as we host our local judiciary for an evening of cocktails and conversation. At the reception we will award a UT School of Law student our Mary

Pearl Williams Scholarship. This \$1,500 scholarship is named after Judge Mary Pearl Williams, and was founded in 2000 when Judge Williams retired from the Travis County district court bench. Judge Williams was the first female county court at law judge and the first female district judge in Travis County. The scholarship is awarded to a woman law student who shows exceptional promise of being a leader in her community.

TCWLA is fortunate to have members who have already established themselves as leaders in the legal community. Each year we award these legal leaders at our annual Grants and Awards Luncheon. Along with

the attorney awards, the Travis County Women Lawyers' Foundation provides \$25,000 in grants to local nonprofit organizations. For an attorney award nomination form, please visit our website (<http://www.tcwla.org>).

We continue to welcome new and renewing members! If you have not renewed your membership for 2010, please visit our website, or just scroll down to the membership form at the end of the newsletter. I hope you take advantage of all that TCWLA has to offer! Sincerely,

Elizabeth Poole

"Along with the attorney awards, the Travis County Women Lawyers' Foundation provides \$25,000 in grants to local nonprofit organizations."

*For an attorney award nomination form and to register for events, please visit our website:
<http://www.tcwla.org>*

SAVE THE DATE & REGISTER ONLINE

Annual Judicial Reception
Thursday, Feb. 25th from 5:30 to 7:30
Green Pastures (811 W Live Oak, 78704)
Please join us for an evening of hors d'oeuvres, beverages and wonderful conversations with many distinguished members of the Austin judiciary and for the presentation of the Mary Pearl Williams schol-

arship to a local outstanding law student. This event is for members-only and is offered at no charge!

March Events
TCWLA CLE
March 5

Register online for a half-day CLE on the FLDS cases.

Membership CLE/Luncheon
March 24
CLE is free for members and \$15 for non-members, with an optional \$15 catered lunch for both.

Interested in admission to the Western District?
Contact us for our new reduced DVD rental price at tcwlaorg@gmail.com.

TCWLA 2010 Events

See <http://www.tcwla.org> to register!

- February 25 **Judicial Reception, Green Pastures Restaurant.** Please join us for this evening event to honor our local members of the judiciary and to enjoy wine, appetizers, and networking. This event is open to Members of TCWLA only, at no charge!
- March 5 **TCWLA Half-Day CLE,** dynamic speakers and panel discussion on the state intervention in the FLDS cases from attorneys who have been most involved
- March 24 **Membership CLE Luncheon, TSTA Building.** Kristine A Huskey (Clinical Professor of Law, National Security Clinic and UT School of Law) will be discussing her work on the Guantanamo cases. Our CLE/Networking lunches are free for members and \$15 for non-members, with an optional \$15 catered lunch for both.
- March 27 **Women's Resource Fair, Community Life Center on Lavaca.** This annual charitable event provides an array of services to women and children in need, and is hosted in conjunction with the AYL. Contact Liz Branch or Amanda Taylor to volunteer: branch@branchlawoffice.com; amandat@hts-law.com.
- April 21 **Membership CLE Luncheon, TSTA Building.** Kurt Kuhn (Partner at Brown McCarroll, candidate for the Third Court of Appeals, & TCWLA member) will be presenting a Supreme Court Update. Our CLE/Networking lunches are free for members and \$15 for non-members, with an optional \$15 catered lunch for both.
- May 3 **Take Your Daughters to Work Day.** Judge Orlinda Naranjo leads this annual program, at which 20 elementary school girls will have the chance to participate in a mock trial and learn about the legal system. Contact Judge Naranjo to volunteer, orlinda.naranjo@co.travis.tx.us.
- May 13 **Grants & Awards Luncheon, location TBA.** At this annual event, hosted with the Foundation, members will enjoy a great lunch, auction, and raffle. Importantly, awards will be given to women attorneys making significant contributions in the categories of litigation, public interest, government, contribution to the minority community, pro bono, outstanding achievement, and law firm, government agency, or organization outstanding in its treatment of women. Additionally, grants will be given to organizations that benefit women and children and solve legal problems affecting women and children in Travis County. Finally, scholarships will be presented to 3 female UT Law Students finding success in the face of adversity. Tickets will be available for purchase soon.



Meet Your Board Member Cameron Vann

Cameron Vann has been licensed as an attorney since 1982. After graduating from the University of Texas with a Bachelor of Science and from the University of Houston with a Master of Education, she pursued a teaching and administrative career in Spring Branch Independent School District.

Cameron then earned her Doctor of Jurisprudence from the University of Houston and joined a mid-size civil litigation firm. In 1985 she opened her private practice in Houston, focusing on probate and elder law until her retirement in 2003. While practicing in Houston Cameron served on several boards and received

awards for her work from Baylor College of Medicine, Alzheimer Association, Mental Health Association, Association of Women Attorneys, and Rotary.

After deciding that she had too much energy to retire permanently, Cameron moved to Austin to work at Advocacy, Inc. representing clients with mental health disabilities. While at Advocacy, she served on the Mental Health Community Committee and the Jail Diversion Committee. She is a past and current board member of the Travis County Women Lawyers Association.

Joining the Texas Lawyers Assistance Program

(TLAP) staff at the State Bar of Texas in July 2008, Cameron works with lawyers, judges and law students who experience depression and alcohol or drug dependency, to connect with resources for recovery. If there is someone in the legal community struggling with these issues, make a confidential referral to TLAP at 512-427-1453 to get help.

Cameron and her husband Charlie own Barrington Bed and Breakfast in Washington-on-the-Brazos, Texas, and have a son in Los Angeles and daughter in Washington, D.C.

“If there is someone in the legal community struggling with these issues, make a confidential referral to TLAP at 512-427-1453 to get help.”

Austin Lawyers Support Group

A new group and resource for attorneys in Austin and the surrounding areas has just opened its doors. The Austin Lawyers Support Group, organized by the Texas Lawyers Assistance Program, is meeting monthly on the last Thursday each month,

from Noon-1:00 at the Austin Bar Association, 816 Congress, 7th Floor Board Room, no charge, free parking. This monthly education and support group is for lawyers, judges and law students seeking help or support while healing from depression, addic-

tion, job stress, anxiety and other mental health issues.

2010 TAKE YOUR DAUGHTERS TO WORK DAY**Monday, May 3, 2010**

This is your opportunity to volunteer with the Travis County Woman Lawyers' Association's award winning program by serving as a mentor, even if it's only for one day. TCWLA has scheduled for the tenth year their premier program, "Take Your Daughters to Work Day", on **Monday, May 3, 2010** from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. This program reaches out to young girls in the fifth and sixth grades at Zavala Elementary School located in East Austin. The principal, teachers, and counselors will select twenty (20) girls who have good attendance and grades to participate in the program. This will be our 4th year to conduct a mock trial involving a protective order based on dating violence.

Breast Cancer Legal Advocacy Workshop**Friday, April 16, 2010****Brown McCarroll LLP, Austin, TX**

Sponsored by

Brown McCarroll LLP &**The American Bar Association Health Law Section Breast Cancer Task Force**

Out of all women born today, one in eight women will be diagnosed with breast cancer at some point in their life. Chances are you or someone you know has had some experience with this disease. Cancer patients face a variety of legal problems related to their illness, including healthcare concerns, insurance company refusal to authorize needed treatment, and employment issues. This seminar will provide information to attorneys of practices, procedures, and statutory enactments that will help them to assist clients with legal problems resulting from their illness. Information will also be provided on how attorneys can become advocates for breast cancer patients.

*To participate, contact
the Chair, Judge*

Orlinda Naranjo, at

854-4023 or

orlinda.naranjo@co.trav

is.tx.us. They always

need help with drivers.

*For more information,
including information on
registration contact Abigail*

Palagi at the ABA

Health Law Section at

PalagiA@staff.abanet.org



Dare to be different.

LOGOS
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**SCHEDULE
YOUR
APPOINTMENT**

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IT'S ALL ABOUT STANDING OUT.
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TAKE OUR DAUGHTERS TO WORK DAY

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information
tcwlaorg
@gmail.com**

T C W L A

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS

-
- Active Membership: \$40 per calendar year, due Jan. 1
-
- Student Membership: \$20 per calendar year, due Jan. 1
-
- Fall Membership Special: \$20 for October, Nov, and December, payable after Oct. 1
-
- Lifetime Membership: \$400, payable anytime
-
- Newly Licensed Attorney Membership: *Complimentary* membership for first 14 months of licensure (the November and December of the year of licensure, plus the following calendar year.
-

Member Contact Information

Member's Name: _____

Email address: _____

New member? Y / N

Are you purchasing this membership as a gift for another? Y / N

If yes, please let us know your name and email address: _____

Member Practice Information

I am currently employed at: _____.

I am seeking employment in this practice area: _____.

I am a law student at _____ and will graduate in _____.

My practice area(s) are:

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative/Regulatory | <input type="checkbox"/> Education/School | <input type="checkbox"/> Malpractice |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appellate | <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental | <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Injury |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A D R | <input type="checkbox"/> Family | <input type="checkbox"/> Probate/Estate Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Banking/Finance | <input type="checkbox"/> Government/Municipal | <input type="checkbox"/> Property Tax |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bankruptcy | <input type="checkbox"/> Health | <input type="checkbox"/> Oil & Gas |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business Transactions | <input type="checkbox"/> Immigration | <input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Civil/Business Litigation | <input type="checkbox"/> In House Counsel | <input type="checkbox"/> Securities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Civil Rights/Discrimination | <input type="checkbox"/> Intellectual Property | <input type="checkbox"/> Tax |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Consumer | <input type="checkbox"/> International | <input type="checkbox"/> Telecommunications |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate | <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance Defense | <input type="checkbox"/> Water |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Criminal Prosecution/Defense | <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance (Other) | <input type="checkbox"/> Workers Compensation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Employment/Labor | <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile | <input type="checkbox"/> Other : _____ |

I am interested in networking: () in my practice area(s)

() in the following practice area(s)

I would be willing to:

() send a welcome email to a new member in my practice area.

() be a resource to a member interested in my practice area.

() be listed on the public part of the website as a member with this practice area.

I would like to be included:

() in the online directory available to members.

Payment Information

- Paying by check? Mail both to: TCWLA, P.O. Box 684683, Austin, TX 78768-4683.
- Paying by Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express, or PayPal? Pay online at: <http://www.tcwla.org/joinus.html>

Thank you for joining TCWLA!



Mailing Address
P.O. Box 684683
Austin, TX 78768-4683
Email
tcwlaorg@gmail.com

WE'RE ON THE
WEB!
WWW.TCWLA.ORG
FACEBOOK

Membership Renewals are Every January Are You Current?

A sampling of membership privileges:

- § FREE CLE at our monthly membership lunches
- § Free admission to the annual Judicial Reception at Green Pastures
- § Invitation to the annual Pathfinders' Luncheon and the annual TCWLF Grants and Awards Luncheon
- § Social Connections: our annual holiday party and other special events
- § Access to *Legal Matters*, our award-winning newsletter
- § Opportunities to spotlight your practice or business at our events and in our newsletter
- § Privilege of community service

Membership dues are only \$40 per calendar year for regular membership!
Student membership is \$20!
Become a lifetime member for \$400!

This year, we are providing FREE MEMBERSHIP to newly licensed attorneys. If you or someone you know was just inducted into the Texas Bar, please claim your free membership and start connecting with practicing attorneys today!

Free Memberships for Newly Licensed Attorneys!

TCWLA congratulates all newly licensed attorneys! The TCWLA board has decided to award all newly licensed attorneys free membership for 2010. TCWLA is a wonderful community of attorneys who can provide guidance and mentorship to new attorneys. We welcome you to our legal community!

For those newly licensed attorneys who are looking for a practice area, membership is an invaluable way to get to know experienced attorneys and learn about the varied practice areas in the Austin area. For those new attorneys who have already chosen an area in which to practice, there is no better group of women to turn to for advice and practical guidance. I encourage all new members to attend our luncheons and other events to get to know the women who have made their careers practicing law in Austin.

Help TCWLA go paperless by renewing your membership online at www.tcwla.org. Or, fill out the form in this newsletter and mail in your dues.