

Simmons Selected for Truman Award

By Merle Turchik



Sally Simmons

Sarah R. ("Sally") Simmons is this year's recipient of the AWLA Alice Truman Leadership Award.

Sally graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Arizona with a B.A. in history, in 1970. She received her J.D., magna cum laude, from the University of Denver Law College in 1973, and is admitted to practice law in both Arizona and Colorado. Throughout most of her professional career, Sally has been a divorced mother raising two sons, Jason and Justin Ground.

Sally has worked and been a partner at prestigious law firms throughout her legal career. First at Molloy Jones from 1974 - 1993, then at Brown & Bain, from 1993 - 2002, and since 2002, at Lewis & Roca.

Sally is a role model to women attorneys throughout the State, and has mentored many AWLA members, right here in Pima County. She was a charter member of the Arizona Women Lawyers Association, served as Vice President to the Southern Arizona Chapter in 1983-84, and participated on the steering committee for the first leadership conference of the Southern Arizona chapter.

Tireless Dedication

As anyone who has ever contacted Sally for assistance will attest, Sally is always accessible, enthusiastic, and willing to share her expertise in any way she can.

Her tireless dedication to assisting colleagues is demonstrated by Sally's participation in the creation of the State Bar's Membership Assistance Program in the 1980s and her service as a member of the Pima County Bar Association Board of Directors from 1985-1994, and the State Board of Governors from 1987-1994. While Sally was serving on the Board of Governors, she was one of the co-founders of the Women Bar Presidents Group, and she participated in that organization from 1991-1994.

In 1993, Sally became only the second woman ever to be elected as President of the Arizona State Bar Association. To further her goal of inclusion, Sally made it a point to visit all specialty bar organizations throughout the state during her tenure as Bar president. Moreover, in conjunction with the Maricopa County Bar Association, during Sally's tenure, she formulated a Quality of Life Task Force to address the many demands facing working attorneys, including working mothers. Since 2001, Sally has served as the Chair for the State Bar Task Force on Persons with Disabilities in the Legal Profession.

Committed to the Community

Sally's contributions, however, are not limited to her law practice. She actively participates in multiple community organizations that provide meaningful services to women. For example, from 1994 - 2000, she has been a Member of the Board of Directors of United Way of Tucson, and has served on the Resources for Women Advisory Board from 1994-2000. From 1995-2001, she was on the Board of Directors of the Arizona Town Hall.

In 1999, President Clinton appointed Sally to the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services, and she served as a member of its Executive Committee in 2000. In this role, she traveled to various military bases (at personal expense) to meet with women serving at all ranks of the armed forces to discuss sexual harassment, lack of combat roles, lack of affordable housing/ childcare and other issues they faced as women serving in the military.

Sally has served or continues to serve on Boards of Directors for the Family Advocacy, Resource and Wellness Centers, Inc. (1994-99), Arizona Equal Justice Project (1992-94), Southern Arizona Legal Aid (1990-96), Lawyers Against Hunger (1990-95). She is a member of the 4R Board of Advisors for the Tucson Unified School District (1994-2003). She has served as an Advisory Board and former Board member of Tucsonans for a Drug Free Work Place and has been a member of the Women Studies Advisory Council for the University of Arizona for many years.

Sally serves, and has served, as a role model for the advancement of women in the legal profession by acting as the 2003-04 Chair of the Board of Visitors at the University of Arizona College of Law, and as a frequent speaker and panelist at State Bar employment law functions, at UA Law School programs, and at Law Women Association gatherings. She also enjoys mentoring younger women lawyers.

AWLA is proud to claim Sally as one of our own and congratulates her on being selected for the 2003 recipient of the Alice Truman Leadership Award. The Award will be presented at AWLA's annual holiday luncheon on Wednesday, December 17.

*The Arizona Women Lawyers Association
Annual Holiday Luncheon and Presentation of the
Alice Truman Leadership Award to Sally R. Simmons*

*December 17, 2003 at 11:30
The Arizona Inn
2200 East Elm Street*

\$15 Students ❖ \$20 AWLA Members ❖ \$35 Non-Members

*The Reservation deadline has passed, but seating may still be available.
Please contact Ronna Fickbohm at 320-1300 or fickbohm@gabroylaw.com no later than
December 16 to inquire about availability.*

Women on the Move!

By Hon. Nikki Chayet

The 22nd YWCA Women on the Move Awards Banquet was held on December 7, 2003. It was an exciting and inspiring evening celebrating the accomplishments and efforts of women in our community. Fifty-seven outstanding women were nominated for the awards this year, including three AWLA members. Twelve women received awards this year.



Chris Cabanillas

Chris Cabanillas was the AWLA nominee for, among other things, her service as chair of the State Bar committee on Minorities and Women in the Law, receipt of the Department of Justice's National Director Award for excellence as a legal instructor and the U.S. National Park Service's Award of Excellence for outstanding service to the Park Service. She was accompanied by her mother, Sarita Cabanillas and friends.

Betty Jo Cather was nominated for, among other things, her service as president of the Pima County Bar Association's Young Lawyers Division and on the state board along with her work as a volunteer counselor for a battered women's shelter. Betty Jo spent the day Sunday walking in the Bobbi Olson Half Marathon raising funds for cancer research. Even after walking 13.1 miles that day, she made it to the gala event with spouse, Jim Stroud. Her



Terri Roberts & Betty Jo Cather

eleven-year-old son Michael opted to stay

home and do homework rather than get dressed up and join his parents, but friends were there to join her as well, including **Terri Roberts** who provided the nomination.

Amelia Craig Cramer was one of the award recipients. She was recognized for, among other things, her work as a founding member of four organizations that target discrimination based on sexual orientation, her service on AWLA's Steering committee and the State



Amelia Craig Cramer & Barbara LaWall

Bar Appointments Committee and Committee on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity, along with her receipt of the Community United Against Violence Award. Amelia was accompanied by her partner, Amy S. Cramer, her mother and stepfather, Margaret Craig Chrisman and William Chrisman and friends and colleagues, including her nominator, **Barbara LaWall**. Congratulations to all of this year's outstanding nominees and award recipients!



Annual Convention a “Success”

By Shannon Giles

On November 8th, approximately sixty AWLA members from across Arizona attended the 24th Annual AWLA State Convention, “Success in the New Millennium,” at the Fiesta Inn Resort Conference Center in Tempe.

Linda Russell, a personal wardrobe consultant for Nordstrom, kicked off the event by highlighting the importance of appearance and the lasting effect of a first impression. Ms. Russell emphasized research showing that a large percentage of the conclusions people draw about a particular individual are based on appearance. All of the attendees received Ms. Russell’s tips and helpful guide on how to determine your body type and dress in the most flattering manner for your body type. Ms. Russell presented a slide presentation featuring AWLA members and their fabulous wardrobe makeovers.



Linda Russell

Teddy Snyder, the author of “Women Rainmakers: Best Marketing Tips,” 2nd ed. (A.B.A.), presented her tips on how to create and grow a law practice through rainmaking. Ms. Snyder advocated developing a written marketing plan and described her strategies for marketing to new and existing clients. To round off the session, Ms. Snyder entertained the group with what is, as far as we know, the only “marketing rap” in existence.



Teddy Snyder

This year’s convention featured two break-out groups. One group featured a distinguished panel of Arizona judges who shared their experiences in attaining both Federal and State Court benches. The second group featured a



Judges’ Panel: Harriet Chavez, Sarah Curley, Rebecca White Berch, Anne Montoya-Paez, Mary Schroeder, Ruth McGregor & Roslyn Silver (not pictured: Virginia Mathis)

panel of women lawyers who have made successful transitions to alternative careers. Both sessions presented members with the opportunity to ask questions and learn more about exciting and diverse career alternatives.

The convention ended with the passing of the torch from outgoing State Board President, **Anne Graham-Bergin**, to new President, **Tamara Brooks-Primera**.

Planning for the 2004 convention has just begun. If you are interested in serving on the planning committee, please contact State Board President-Elect Kristine Fox at (520) 205-4263 or kristine_fox@azd.uscourts.gov.



Anne Graham-Bergin & Tamara Brooks-Primera

New Judges Share Experiences

Those who attended November's luncheon had the pleasure of hearing from AWLA members who have recently joined the Superior Court Bench. Judges **Jane Eikleberry, Virginia Kelly, Michael Miller** and **Jan Kearney** talked openly and honestly about their experiences as new judges. Each judge remembers vividly the first



Hon. Jan Kearney, Program Chair Veronique Pardee, Hon. Michael Miller and Hon. Virginia Kelly

time opening the door to a packed courtroom. The jurists shared that they agonize over decisions and still get stage fright. We learned that robes are not created equal; robe companies offer deluxe options such as anti-rise sleeves and "frog closures." For those who could not attend—Pima County Judges are outfitted in Choir Robes of the Crown Royale variety—the Cadillac of judge-wear. We appreciate the candor and humor of our judges—it was truly a delightful lunch.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

January Lunch: TUESDAY, JAN 20 (following MLK Holiday)
at Noon, The Arizona Inn

Steering Comm: THURSDAY, JAN 15 at Noon
Ronna Fickbohm's Office
Gabroy, Rollman & Bossé

It's Membership Renewal Time!

2004 is fast approaching, and it's that time of year for membership renewal. You should be receiving your 2004 statement shortly. To continue enjoying all the benefits of membership (including discounts on luncheons and CLE, monthly newsletter, notices about and access to other events as well as networking, camaraderie and working together to advance women in the profession), renew right away!

In the January newsletter, be on the lookout for a profile of AWLA's new administrator, Nancy Kroell. Nancy resides in Tucson and will be taking over for Pat Lewis by December 15. We are very excited to have Nancy on board! Any questions about your membership status should be directed to Nancy at 818-0429 or awlaadmin@theriver.com.

Habitat Project Hits \$1000 Mark!

AWLA's contributions to the PCBA Habitat for Humanity project continue. Recently we hit the \$1000 mark. Those members of our chapter contributing subsequent to the last update were **Sally Simmons, Carrie Redenour, Kristine Fox, Megan Miller, Susan Villarreal, Merle Turchik, Eleanor Ter horst and Alyce Pennington**. Ronna Fickbohm's secretary, **Debbie Albert**, also made a contribution in the name of AWLA.

Please keep those donations coming! Mail or deliver your check made out to "PCBA-Habitat for Humanity" to Ronna Fickbohm at Gabroy, Rollman & Bossé, P.C., 3507 N. Campbell Ave., Ste 111; Tucson, AZ 85719 or catch Ronna at the holiday lunch. "Our" work day still is not set, but the majority of members who stated a preference for type of work were fairly evenly split between painting & landscaping. Look for more on the scheduling of that event after the first of the year.

Women of Color Initiative

The American Bar Association is sponsoring a research initiative on female lawyers of color. THIS IS THE FIRST RESEARCH OF ITS KIND! Although there have been numerous surveys on women in the legal profession, none of these studies have done any more than footnote information on women of color.

In order for the research to be statistically "valid," the ABA needs 7,000 participants. While this may not seem like a large number, the Commission has not been able to get lists from schools or minority bar associations due to privacy concerns. Therefore, it is very much a grassroots effort to contact as many women of color as possible to achieve this goal.

To this end, please take a moment to do the following two things. One, if you are a female attorney of color, please register to participate in the survey. Your information will not be sold or traded to any other organization, nor will any identifying information be used in the survey. You can register at www.abanet.org/women/women_color_registration.html. Two, please pass this information on to all of the female attorneys of color that you know. At the very least, this is an opportunity to express publicly all of the issues with the legal community that female attorneys of color often discuss privately.

"The love for justice that is in us is not only the best part of our being but it is also the most true to our nature." Cesar Chavez 1927-1993

To RSVP, Change an Address or Send News....Email

AZAWLA@YAHOO.COM

FREE CLE

The Arizona Asian American Bar Association is offering a free CLE seminar during its quarterly lunch membership meeting on Friday, January 16, from Noon-2 PM at the Dragon View Restaurant in Tucson at 400 North Bonita Avenue (near St. Mary's & I-10). Lunch will be buffet-style and costs roughly \$8 (including tax and tip).

Professor Gabriel "Jack" Chin of the U of A College of Law will be speak on "Brown and Asian-Americans in the Bar." Before joining the U of A Rogers College of Law, Professor Chin served as Interim Associate Dean for Faculty Research and Development & Rufus King Prof of Law, Univ. of Cincinnati College of Law. He obtained his LL.M. from Yale Law School, and is a graduate of the Univ. of Michigan Law School. He obtained his bachelor's degree from Wesleyan Univ. Born in Oakland, Calif., he grew up in New Haven, Conn. His publications include, "Effective Assistance of Counsel and the Consequences of Guilty Pleas," Cornell Law Review, Vol 87, No. 3, March 2002.

To RSVP for this luncheon, please contact Judge Paul Tang at (520) 740-8441 or tang@theriver.com by Monday, January 12, 2004, at noon. If you have any questions, please contact Teresita Mercado at tmercado@ssd.com or (602) 528-4054.

CLE: TURNING THE TABLES ON STRESS

The State Bar has scheduled a unique CLE program titled "**Personal, Professional and**

Ethical Survival of the Law: Turning the Tables on Stress," for January 9, 2004, at the Doubletree Hotel in Tucson. The featured presenter is Steven D. Knope, M.D., Medical Director of the Knope Institute for Core Strength and author of The Body/Mind Connection. His book examines the "undeniable power of physical strength and the positive impact a strong body can have on our global health and psychological well-being." Kathleen A. McCarthy is the program chair and she is a strong proponent of Dr. Knope's philosophy and his dedication to patient care and well-being. (He's renowned for his anti-HMO stance.) Thomas Zlaket, former Chief Justice, will serve on the faculty.

To register, please call Pat Lewis at the State Bar Office in Tucson, 520-623-9944 or register online at www.azbar.org.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS
FROM AWLA!



**Arizona Women Lawyers Assoc.
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