



Women in the Law: Dynamic Trio Wields Power

By Amy Schwartz
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 AWLA Maricopa Chapter

This is part of an ongoing series of articles profiling the past presidents of Arizona Women Lawyers Association, Maricopa Chapter. When referring to AWLA herein, the reference is intended to be to the county chapter, not the State organization, unless otherwise stated.

Organized, pragmatic, and passionate describe the trio of women who served as presidents of the Maricopa Chapter in 1997, 1998 and 1999. Thea Silverstein (Whittier 1987), Diane Drain (UA 1985), and Ann Scott Timmer (UA 1982) presided during a period in which AWLA was able to flex its muscles, grown powerful as a result of the membership growth and more sophisticated infrastructure achieved by the prior administrations. These years were characterized by greater attention to public relations and community outreach, increasingly successful efforts to place women on the bench, and continued improvement in



Clockwise from top left:
Thea Silverstein,
Diane Drain and
Hon. Ann Scott
Timmer

the internal administration of AWLA.

Thea, a partner at Snell and Wilmer, brought a vision to her post which perhaps grew out of her large law firm experience. Like her predecessors, Thea recognized the importance of "marketing" AWLA to its potential constituents, in order to expand its mission and services, but she was one of the first to advocate retaining a public relations consultant to assist in this effort. Thea says her most gratifying accomplishment was the strides made in helping women applicants to the bench. By attending commission hearings and interviews, AWLA was able to compile a data base it then utilized to develop a sophisticated training program, including holding mock interviews. This program was instrumental in increasing quality female judicial appointments.

In the last few months of her term, Thea became the envy of all who knew her when she had the op-

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Roxie Bacon wins Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award

AWLA is proud to announce that one of five 2007 Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award recipients is Arizona's own Roxana C. Bacon.

The Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award, established by the ABA Commission on Women in the Profession in 1991, recognizes and celebrates The accomplishments of women lawyers who have excelled in their field and have paved the way to success for other women lawyers.

Honorees receiving the Margaret Brent Award have achieved professional excellence in their field and influenced other woman to pursue legal careers, opened doors for women lawyers in a variety of job settings that historically were closed to them, and/or advanced opportunities for women within a practice area or segment of the profession.

Roxie was nominated by Kristine Fox on behalf of AWLA and her nomination was supported by Governor Janet Napolitano, the Hon. Sandra Day O'Connor (a past Brent Award recipient), the Hon. Mary M. Schroeder (also a Brent Award recipient), the Hon. Ruth V. McGregor, Dean Toni Massaro, a contingent of past State Bar of Arizona Presidents including Helen Perry Grimwood, Esq. and the Hon. Sarah R. Simmons, Prof. Lenni Benson, and Lori S. Melton, Esq. Roxie will receive the award at the 2007 Margaret Brent Awards Luncheon, to be held at the ABA Annual Meeting at the Moscone West Convention Center in San Francisco on Sunday, August 12, 2007 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Please join us in congratulating Roxie! ▼

Congratulations to William "Bill" Brotherton Jr. and Samuel Thumma, our new Superior Court Judges! Governor Janet Napolitano appointed Mr. Brotherton and Mr. Thumma to the Maricopa County Superior Court. Mr. Thumma, a partner at Perkins Coie Brown & Bain P.A., is an active member of AWLA. ▼

2007 Maricopa Chapter Executive Committee

President: Juliet R. Peters
JPeters@coldstonecreamery.com

President-Elect: Mimi Daiza
MDAIZA@aol.com

Vice President: Carrie Kercsmar
cak@k-mlaw.com

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Eileen Sullivan
Michele Tyler
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Alternates:
Jennifer Holsman

Women in the Law

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portunity to move to Rome, to work in the American Embassy. After several years in Italy, Thea returned to the United States, and presently works as a bond attorney in Pennsylvania.

Upon Thea's departure, Diane Drain ascended to the presidency a few months early. During Diane's term, AWLA benefited immensely from her incredible organizational and administrative skills, perhaps learned as a sole practitioner (Diane runs her bankruptcy practice out of a lovely home office.) One of Diane's first concerns was addressing the problematic transition of AWLA's officers. Incoming officers did not have the training or knowledge needed to immediately take on their new responsibilities. Diane instituted a system, which still exists today, in which the outgoing officers met with the incoming officers to transfer job duties, and to train them.

Diane also instigated a whirlwind of other administrative improvements, including changing the election of officers from September to January; switching the dues drive to the end of the prior administration, so it was not the first task of the incoming officers; opening a CD to deposit dues and other moneys; and renting a storage unit with the State organization to provide a permanent repository for AWLA's documents, banners, and other items. Her term saw the inception of the use of blast faxes to publicize the luncheons, in addition to the postcards which were also used in those days before email. Diane's other accomplishments included the overhaul of the newsletter, and continuing the political outreach emphasized by Helen Grimwood. During Diane's term, the State Bar mandated a course in professionalism, and AWLA began developing its now very popular CLE Professionalism seminar. This course continues to be offered annually.

The highlight of Diane's term was the investiture of Justice Ruth McGregor, and a party for Justice McGregor held at now-Judge Eileen Willett's home. Diane comments that while some people may take it for granted that AWLA is involved in significant events promoting women in the profession, the appointment of Justice McGregor to the Supreme Court, and her generous acknowledgement of the support she had received from AWLA, provided some of the first tangible evidence of the success that could be achieved by organizing and exercising political power.

At the time she succeeded to the presidency, Ann Timmer was in private practice. The following year,

2000, she was appointed to the Court of Appeals, which was another thrilling development for AWLA. Judge Timmer's service as president of AWLA, before her own appointment to the bench, continued the efforts of her predecessors in paving the way for more women to follow in her footsteps. 1999 brought many vacancies to the Superior Court bench. Judge Timmer was extremely pro-active in pushing AWLA's agenda to fill those vacancies with qualified women. She attending meetings of the Judicial Commission, and, while acknowledging that merit came first, urged the Commission to value diversity in choosing among qualified applicants. That year, Judge Bethany Hicks, an AWLA member, became the first female appointed in several years.

Judge Timmer also led an effort to evaluate the status of women in the private sector by initiating a survey regarding equity and non-equity partners in major law firms. The results showed a significant disparity in the number of women equity partners compared to the statistical presence of women in the profession. As both Drain and Timmer explain, they were not members of the generation which strived to increase the sheer number of women in the profession; for them, the focus was now on advancement within it. While historically the challenge for women was simply to get hired, the new challenge was to move into positions of power. In too many firms, women were, not progressing in sufficient numbers; as Timmer states, "women write the briefs; men argue them."

When asked whether they believe AWLA is still a relevant organization, both Timmer and Drain adamantly say yes; they believe women need an outlet to talk about and address the issues facing them in the workplace more than men do, and AWLA remains valuable for that purpose. It is also extremely valuable for women looking for non-traditional work, and to provide support for women seeking to balance the demands on their lives. Diane cites her unconventional situation as a full time lawyer working out of her home, and thinks she can be a model for other women looking for similar alternatives.

Thea concurs. She says that even if all things are equal, the camaraderie and shared experiences of women lawyers are still a valid reason for keeping AWLA going strong. She has this advice for new women lawyers: don't take for granted that what you have achieved and will achieve are the results of your efforts and qualifications alone. There were many that came before you who made your professional journey easier, and you have the responsibility to work on behalf of the women who will come after you.

The Restaurant Review

By **Pamela J.P. Donison**
AWLA Maricopa Chapter Newsletter Committee

Each month, after our Maricopa Chapter Executive and Steering Committee Meetings, a few members go out to dinner. It's an opportunity to socialize, catch up with friends and colleagues, and sample a new restaurant. At our most recent outing, we decided that since we were informally reviewing the food and wine in our conversation, that we would put our thoughts together to share with you, to inspire you to try (or not) a restaurant that is off your beaten path. We are rating based on a 1 – 5 gavel system.

1 Gavel = Lousy food and service; would not recommend
 2 Gavels = Mediocre food and service; try at your own risk

3 Gavels = Satisfactory food and service; nothing special to recommend; room for improvement

4 Gavels = Above average food and service; you should try it

5 Gavels = Sublime experience; go there now!

This month, we sampled the fare at **Fenix Eatery** and below is our collective review. As with all good restaurant reviews, we remain anonymous!

Fenix Eatery & Bar
 3943 E. Camelback Road
 Phoenix, AZ 85018
 602-952-0013
 Continental / French Bistro

3.5 Gavels



☞ We shared a bottle (or three) of Row 11 Pinot Noir, which was excellent. It has a beautiful ruby color, fruity nose, cherry and plum flavors, and a satisfyingly dry finish. To start, I had the Classic Caesar salad, which was a clump of butter lettuce topped with a few glops of dressing and a couple of shavings of Parmesan. Skip it in favor of the escargots, which were delightful broiled morsels drowning in butter and garlic. For my main course, I had the chicken Milanese which was also bland and boring. The only upside was the tomato/arugula/caper relish. On the side I had the potatoes au gratin, which could have been a meal. They were stellar: tender slices of potato in a hot-from-the-oven dish, bubbly and crispy on top, creamy and cheesy inside, and

completely satisfying. I sampled the dark chocolate gelato for dessert, which was a nice finish, even though it probably came from the ice cream shop next door. The ambience inside is nice – very bistro -- but noisy. The service was acceptable but slow and not as attentive as it should have been. My total bill was \$65 with tax and tip.

☞ I had the roasted beet salad, which was very good. I especially liked the blue cheese slices, very creamy and tasty. I also had the ahi tuna appetizer, which again was really good. The tuna was rare (just as I like it) with a peppercorn crust, making it especially good because it was a little spicy and you could taste the peppercorn with every bite. I am getting hungry just thinking about it.

☞ The baby salmon trout special was delicious and I really enjoyed the roasted potatoes that came with it. The profiteroles and éclair desserts were worth every calorie. Some of the water refills were lukewarm, and the service could have been better, but I would go back.

☞ Although the menu is short, the choices were appealing. My grilled trout salad was delicious and the peppered ahi appetizer was even better. The duck a l'orange was crispy outside, juicy inside, and the orange sauce made the wild rice divine. The green beans, however, were limp and tasteless. Dessert: oh my god. All three of them (gelato, éclair and profiterole) were delicious. Service tried hard, but didn't rise to the challenge of a group of 12.

☞ I had the baby salmon trout -- melt in your mouth trout but sauce was a little too rich and the accompanying potatoes were nothing out of the ordinary. The pinot noir was a very good accompaniment.

☞ Nice wine list, bar area, and decor, but service was not so prompt and it was too noisy. Of the items I tasted, I'd recommend the macaroni and cheese (really!) and the orange cream/puff pastry/dark chocolate dessert. And, of course, the Row 11 pinot noir was great.

☞ The peppercorn seared ahi tuna appetizer was delicious, and what a thrill to find Row 11 Pinot Noir on the wine list! The chocolate/orange pastry desert was yummy. The service was good but slow, probably due to having a party of 12 on a Tuesday night.

☞ Nice wine list, bar area, and decor, but service was not so prompt and it was too noisy. Of the items I tasted, I'd recommend the macaroni and cheese (really!) and the orange cream/puff pastry/dark chocolate dessert. And, of course, Row 11 pinot noir goes well with everything!

Pamela Donison is on the AWLA State Board of Directors (Treasurer) and the Maricopa Chapter Steering Committee (Newsletter Chair). She is the owner of Donison Law Firm, PLLC which focuses on non-litigated family law. She can be reached at pamela@donisonlaw.com or 480-951-6599.

PhoenixLaw Survives Final Four

Local Moot Court team almost nabs national championship

While the eyes of the sporting world have been fixed on the NCAA Men's and Women's basketball Final Four, a team from **Phoenix School of Law** took to a different kind of court, and nearly won a national championship.

Facing teams from America's leading law schools, PhoenixLaw's first-ever Moot Court team advanced from the Sweet Sixteen, through the Elite Eight, and past the Final Four to face Boston College in the national championship at the John J. Gibbons Criminal Procedure Moot Court Competition at Seton Hall University.

The PhoenixLaw team, lost to BC in the national championship, but gained a legion of new fans nationwide. Moot Court Coach and Phoenix Law Professor Victoria Salzmann, said taking the silver was a team effort.

"We held practice rounds throughout Spring Break and into the next two weeks," said Salzmann. "Faculty, staff and student peers supported the team's efforts—all taking turns listening to and critiquing the arguments. But during the final match-up, Patti Briones and Justin Dallacqua were on their own. And they were practice-ready."

Phoenix Law Dean Dennis Shields was busy text-messaging and emailing every time the team won another round. "We are so proud of our PhoenixLaw student body, and our Moot Court team exemplifies the quality law students we've been fortunate to attract," said Dean Shields.

At one point in the tournament, when PhoenixLaw faced the John Marshall School of Law, Coach Salzmann promised that if her team advanced, she would don a "pink prom dress for the next round."



When PhoenixLaw won in an upset, a faculty member scoured local thrift stores till she found a \$5 pink chiffon prom dress, which now the coach must wear while teaching class.

Even though they didn't take the national championship, Briones and Dallacqua and teammates Julia Guinane and Frances Santos got heroes' welcomes when they returned to Sky Harbor. Sunday evening, team members were welcomed by PhoenixLaw faculty, staff and student supporters. One reveler, Associate Professor of Law MaryAnn Pierce, said supporters yelled, screamed and hugged when the team arrived.

"We sure surprised them. There was a huge banner and we all held smaller signs that said, 'PhoenixLaw Mooters Rock'," said Pierce. "We had a ball!" ▼

Fourth Annual Suit Drive Raises 200 Suits for Needy Women

Thank you to **Eileen Sullivan** for coordinating the 2007 AWLA-Maricopa Chapter's annual suit drive (our fourth). Thanks to **Maureen Kane** for organizing the legislative effort which donated 100 pieces to the suit drive, totaling \$3,232. Another 100 pieces were donated by AWLA members at the April 25 luncheon. Suits were donated to **A New Leaf** (previously known as Prehab of Arizona) and **Arizona Women's Education and Employment, Inc.** Thanks to **Amy Schwartz** and **Shimin Luo** for assisting Eileen in transferring the donated items. ▼

Phoenix School of Law Student Wins Prestigious Scholarship



Mesa resident, **Allison (Alli) Hirohata**, a first year law student at Phoenix School of Law, is the proud winner of one of only three scholarships awarded by the Asian American Bar Association. The \$1,500 scholarships are given in honor of Judge Thomas Tang, and are based on two page essays written by the entrants.

"I was really excited to win because I could have been judged against second and third year law students," said Hirohata. "I am happy to bring recognition to the school. As for the money, well every little bit helps."

Hirohata, a fourth generation Japanese-American, graduated from the University of Arizona in 2005 with a B.A. in Political Science. A co-captain of the UA cheerleading program, she received the first ever "Academic Award" for the highest team GPA. After graduation, she spent a year at the law firm of Kutak Rock, working in the real estate department.

"My parents worked on the family farm in west Phoenix and the few professionals in my family were all men," said Hirohata. "They inspired me to work hard and stay focused. They also taught me I could make a difference once I figured out what my passion was."

Hirohata has already made a difference at Phoenix School of Law with her hard work and charming personality.

"She is very deserving of this award," said Denise Atwood, one of her study partners. "She is genuinely nice and kind to people and her attention to detail is astounding."

Daniel Dye, a Lawyering Process Instructor, has had Hirohata in two of his classes, and considers her a real asset.

"She has a certain intellectual curiosity and a real desire to do well," said Dye. "She has in mind what she wants to do and goes after it. She's a great person to be around and is upbeat even when the situation might not be."

As for the future, Hirohata wants to serve as a role model to Asian-American women and to continue

working with community organizations like the Japanese American Citizens League.

"I feel a strong connection and commitment to Arizona," said Hirohata. "I hope that by becoming a lawyer and continuing my volunteering I can really make a difference."

Ryan Joins Library Staff at Phoenix School of Law

Christy Ryan is the new Head of Technical Services for the Information Resource Center (IRC) at Phoenix School of Law. She is responsible for overseeing the cataloguing and acquisitions of books, and the maintenance of journals and periodicals for the law library.

"I was attracted to this opportunity because it's a chance to get in on the ground floor of a new school," said Ryan. "I hope to help the IRC and the school accomplish its American Bar Association accreditation."

Ryan, a native of Tulsa, OK, received her M.L.I.S. from the University of Oklahoma and her B.B.A from Northeastern Oklahoma State University.

She previously served as Assistant Director of Collection Services at Texas Tech University, Law Library and as Head of Technical Services at the University of Tulsa, Mabee Legal Information Center.

In her spare time, she enjoys movies and is looking forward to attending Phoenix Suns games. She has two children, ages 14 and 10.

Phoenix School of Law is the first private law school in Arizona. It is currently in the process of seeking ABA accreditation. ▼



JOIN us for our annual Wine, Women & Jazz FUNdraiser

Saturday, May 19th from 4PM – 7PM
 at the Arizona Culinary Institute
 10585 N 116th Street (at Shea Blvd) in Scottsdale.

Tickets are \$50 (\$65 at the door)
 Please use the registration form below
www.azwp.org

More info: 602-863-9744
 Men are most welcome to attend.

Enjoy sumptuous hors d'oeuvres, delicious desserts, fine wine and great jazz.
 YOU deserve it.

Valley Jazz Divas Margo Reed, Delphine Cortez and Blaise Lantana,
 will provide lively entertainment at this popular FUNdraiser
 which also features a **silent auction**.

Chefs Jennifer Sedig, Jacqueline Kerrigan and Spomenka McKinney
 will prepare sumptuous hors d'oeuvres and desserts ... along with selected wines.

This year's event is hosted and underwritten by the **Arizona Culinary Institute**.

All proceeds generated from this event will benefit the selected charities of the **Arizona Women's Partnership, Inc.**, an all volunteer 501 (C) 3 non-profit. www.azwp.org **Arizona Blankets 4 Kids** (Metro Phoenix), **Arizona Coalition for Tomorrow** (Metro Phoenix), **Camp Verde Adult Literacy Program**, **Haven Family Resource Center** (Lake Havasu), **Payson Community Kids**, **Power Paws Assistance Dogs for the Disabled** (Metro Phoenix), **Southwest Valley Literacy Association** (Avondale), **Timber Trails Children's Project** (for Valley Youth), **Tucson International Alliance of Refugee Communities**, and **United People Who Care** (Winslow).

Your tickets will be held in Your Name at the door. You will receive confirmation by phone or e-mail. Make Checks payable and mail to: **Arizona Women's Partnership, Inc. 13058 N. Surrey Circle Phoenix, AZ 85029 Thank You! ▼**

Support AWLA Member Sheri Shepard in the 3-Day Breast Cancer Walk

Last year Amy Schwartz organized an AWLA cheer station for walkers for the Breast Cancer 3-Day. As a volunteer at the cheering station, I found it to be quite an inspirational experience! On behalf of AWLA and women everywhere, I have volunteered this year to walk the 60 miles and camp out for two nights to help fight breast cancer! With three daughters, and meeting women who have survived breast cancer, I want to do what I can to help fight this illness.

I am going to be walking (or crawling) 60 miles over the course of three days, for a cause devoted to helping women discover breast cancer early enough to beat it and committed to finally finding a cure. As a condition of participation, I must raise at least \$2,200. Proceeds benefit Susan G. Komen for the Cure and the National

Philanthropic Trust Breast Cancer Fund. This certainly promises to be an unforgettable challenge.

If you want to support Sheri, who is an AWLA Maricopa Chapter Steering Committee Member, go to www.kintera.org/faf/donorReg/donorPledge.asp?ievent=202306&supid=159101712 to visit her donation web page . ▼

For more information about what it going on in our Chapter or others, remember to visit our websites:

Southern Arizona -- www.awla-southernaz.org

Maricopa -- www.awla-maricopa.org

Cochise -- www.awla-cochise.org

April State Bar Board of Governor Meeting Minutes

At the State Bar Board of Governor's meeting on April 27, 2007, the Board considered whether to support or oppose a petition submitted to the Arizona Supreme Court by Timothy P. Burr, an attorney at Jennings, Strouss and Salmon. Mr. Burr has petitioned the Supreme Court to revise the Arizona Rules for Admission to the State Bar of Arizona to allow admission of five-year practitioners by motion, with certain reciprocity constraints.

The State Bar of Arizona conducted a survey of practitioners. Of those Arizona attorneys who chose to respond, 60% opposed the petition and 40% supported it. After much discussion, a motion was made to **oppose** the petition.

More information about the petition may be found at www.myazbar.org/admissionmotion.

Attorneys are encouraged to comment on the petition. **Comments to the Supreme Court are due by May 21, 2007.** You must register through the Supreme Court's rules forum to post a comment. To register, go to <http://www.supreme.state.az.us/> and click on "Court Rules Forum" under "Quick Links."

As of this writing, the majority of posted comments **support** the petition.

Board of Governors Vote: 17 yes, 3 no and 1 abstention

A "yes" vote was a vote to oppose the petition filed by Mr. Burr. A "no" vote was a vote not to oppose Mr. Burr's petition.

No votes:

Paul W. Ahler
Stephen M. Dichter
Alexander B. Jamison

Yes votes

Frank Barriga
Alan Bayham
Bryan Chambers
Gennie R. Click
Richard Coffinger
Amelia C. Cramer
Whitney Cuningham
Diane L. Drain
Fernando Gonzales
Joseph A. Kanefield
Daniel J. McAuliffe
Edward F. Novak
Steven P. Sherick
Jeffrey Willis

Abstain:

David K. Byers ▼

Arizona Jury Reform is Still a Hot Topic

Mike Yarnell, Assistant Clinical Professor at Phoenix School of Law, and a retired Maricopa County Superior Court judge, was published in the Australian Journal of Forensic Sciences. His article, "**Jury Reform: Where is the Science – The Arizona Jury: Past, Present & Future Reform,**" appears in the January-June 2006 issue. Arizona led the country in jury reform beginning in the late 1990's.



The widespread and extensive social science research into the function of juries assists those interested in effective and persuasive jury communications. His article discusses the Arizona jury reform movement and the 2005 American Bar Association *Principles for Juries & Jury Trials*.

Yarnell covers such topics as juror questions to the court and witnesses, hung criminal juries, judge-jury agreements in criminal cases, and continuing jury reform. ▼

New Clerk of the Arizona Supreme Court

Chief Justice Ruth V. McGregor today announced the Arizona Supreme Court's selection of **Rachelle M. Resnick** as the Clerk of the Arizona Supreme Court.

Ms. Resnick is an attorney who is currently the acting Assistant Court Administrator of the Eighth Judicial District Court in Las Vegas. Ms. Resnick was selected "Public Lawyer of the Year" by the Nevada State Bar in 2005 and was the creator and program manager of the Family Law self-help center in that court. She will begin her duties with the Arizona Supreme Court on February 26, 2007.

The Clerk of the Supreme Court is appointed by the Arizona Supreme Court pursuant to Article VI, § 7, of the Arizona Constitution. The Clerk's Office performs a myriad of detailed responsibilities in support of the Court's constitutional appellate litigation functions, rule making authority, and attorney admission/discipline authority. The Clerk's Office maintains the Court's case files and disseminates the Court's opin-

U of A Women's Plaza of Honor

by Lynne Wood
Southern Arizona Chapter, AWLA

The Women's Plaza of Honor was created by friends and supporters of the UA Women's Studies Department to honor outstanding women in Arizona. An important category of women whose political and governmental leadership have influenced and shaped our state's history are Women in Law. . .those foremothers who have led the way in the legal and judicial arena. Women in Arizona's legal profession who have blazed a trail for the rest of us should be recognized in the UA Women's Plaza of Honor, and memorialized in perpetuity. Their names should be engraved on one of the remaining arches, picture enclosed, while there is still time. This Plaza will not be complete without recognition of these women who have made a difference in jurisprudence in our state, and in each of our lives as women lawyers.

AWLA Members Lynne Wood Dusenberry, retired Judge Margaret Houghton, and Janice Wezelman having been working toward the creation of a an arch in the Women's Plaza to such women and to honor 28 female "firsts" in jurisprudence -- Supreme Court justices, Law School Deans, legal organization founders and presidents, and other trailblazers in the profession -- inscribing their names on the arch (leaving space and a plan for future honorees) and including their histories and biographies in the electronic archives of the Plaza honorees. To do this, they must raise \$25,000. They have a good start, but still need help.

The Women's Plaza of Honor is a place of respite and beauty on the University of Arizona campus in a key location between Centennial Hall, the main theatrical performance venue, and the Arizona State Museum, an accessible space often visited by the general public. Proceeds will also create an endowment to benefit the UA Women's Studies Department.

But the Plaza is much more than a lovely setting. Plans include a strong educational component. The Plaza website and on-site computer kiosk will allow the public to learn about the women who had an impact in our lives. This electronic compilation of honored women will offer enormous educational opportunities, providing a place for our young women to



Left, the Woman's Plaza of Honor Arches; right, the Three Muses Fountains at the Plaza.

learn about their foremothers, and the women who paved their way to expanded opportunities.

Take a look at the Plaza website -- www.womansplaza.arizona.edu -- to learn more about the Women's Plaza of Honor. While it is definitely a work in progress, the website provides a sense of the potential historical and educational possibilities of this project, as well as an update on its construction.

For more information or to make a pledge, please contact AWLA Members Lynne Wood Dusenberry (621-3175); Judge Margaret Houghton (ret) (299-5841); or Janice Wezelman (795-9584). Gifts are fully tax deductible to the extent of the law. ▼



AWLA AT THE STATE BAR CONVENTION

Thursday and Friday, June 28 - 29, 2007

Members Only Convention Party · Thursday, June 28, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

At the home of Maricopa Chapter President Juliet Peters

Drinks and hors d'oeuvres will be served

Complimentary admission for AWLA members

Held in honor of AWLA's Past Presidents

RSVP at <http://www.awla-maricopa.org/RSVP.asp?EID=66>

by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, June 25

Directions to Juliet's home will be sent to those current AWLA members who RSVP

Mary Anne Richey Scholarship Breakfast · Friday, June 29 at 7:30 a.m.

The Westin Kierland Resort in Scottsdale ~ \$35 per person

Register for the breakfast through the State Bar convention registration link: <http://www.myazbar.org/Convention>

or see the State Bar Convention booklet

AWLA will award its annual Sarah Herring Sorin Award to

Maricopa Chapter Member

Georgia A. Staton

Donations to the Mary Anne Richey Scholarship may be made

by credit card or check at the Breakfast

For questions or information on these events,

please contact AWLA's Administrator, Joanne Itri-Arleo, at Admin@AWLA-State.org

or 602.218.5273

Phoenix School of Law Wins National Design Award

Bernita Stark, graphic artist and data manager for the Phoenix School of Law, won a national award from the editors of Graphic Design USA. The award was given for her design of a postcard that was mailed to prospective law students (see below).

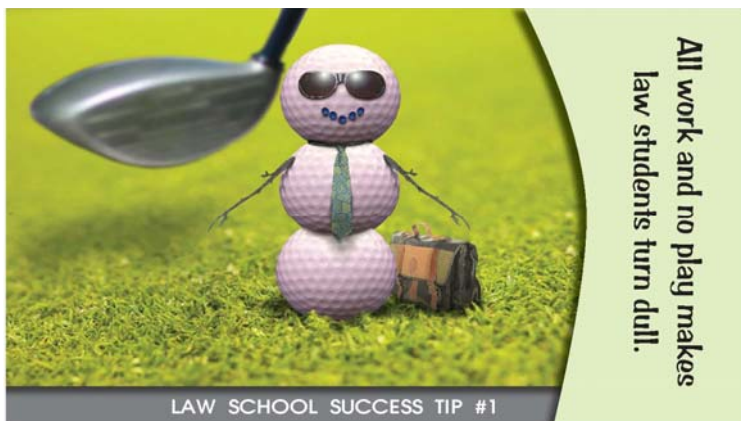
“This is the first time I have ever entered a contest,” said Stark. “I was taken aback that I won.”

Graphic Design USA has been conducting design competitions for 40 years. This year a record 4,000 entries were received, of which only 15 per cent receive recognition. Corporate sponsors of this year’s Awards program were Agfa and The Creative Group.

Stark received her A.A. degree from the Colorado Institute of Art and has been doing graphic design for 10 years. She is also an illustrator and painter of expressionism art. She has worked for the Phoenix School of Law for two years.

Her winning entry will be published in the July 2007 American In-House Design Awards issue, which is seen by a national audience of nearly 100,000 design professionals and creative management.

“I still have a sense of unreality about it,” said Stark. “When I see it in print in July, then I’ll believe it’s for real.” ▼



PhoenixLaw Professor Wilrich Wins NAACP’s Highest Award

Penny Willrich, Associate Professor of Law and Director of the Lawyering Process Program at **Phoenix School of Law**, is being honored with the 2007 NAACP Roy Wilkins Award. The award will be presented at the NAACP banquet April 13.



“Being honored with this award is probably one of the most precious and significant highlights of my life,” she said. “Growing up in the 1950’s and 60’s, I remember my parents talking about him and watching him on TV. This award is beyond my greatest imagination! I am proud I am part of PhoenixLaw when this award is being bestowed.”

Willrich, who has more than 20 years of teaching experience and has been teaching at Phoenix School of Law since 2005, was appointed as a Judge to the Maricopa County Superior Court bench in 1999. Prior to her appointment, she served as a Commissioner from 1995-1999 and was a volunteer pro tem judge from 1991-1994.

Willrich is licensed to practice law in Arizona and Texas. She received her J.D. from Antioch School of Law in 1982. She also holds B.A. degrees in Political Science and History from the University of Texas at Arlington, an M.S. degree, *summa cum laude*, in Community Psychology from Springfield College, and is currently working on her Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences from the Union Institute and University.

She has received numerous awards and honors for her outstanding community service, service to the legal community and scholarship. Among them are: Arizona Black Lawyers Trailblazer Award; Outstanding African American Alumni—University of Texas at Arlington; State Bar of Arizona 100 Women and Minority Lawyers Award; and the Phenomenal Woman Award from the Arizona Association of Women for Change.

Maricopa Chapter

and



The Supreme Court of the State of Arizona

cordially invite all

Law Clerks

for a tour of the Supreme Court

with AWLA Member

Vice Chief Justice Rebecca White Berch

Monday, June 4, 2007 at 1:30 p.m.

Please meet in the Supreme Court Courtroom

1501 West Washington, Fourth Floor

R.S.V.P. by Tuesday, May 29, 2007 at noon at

<http://www.awla-maricopa.org/RSVP.asp?EID=65>

At the request of the Supreme Court, only law clerks are invited to this tour.

For further information, contact Franci Fealk at ffealk@appeals.az.gov

May 12, 2:30-4:30 pm, Wine Tasting at Mosaic Restaurant. \$13 per person plus tax and tip. For directions or information, visit www.mosaic-restaurant.com. RSVP to Paige Martin by noon on Friday before the scheduled event at Paige.Martin@KutakRock.com.

May 17, 11:30 to 1:30 pm, YWCA Women's Empowerment Lecture Series. For more information go to www.ywca.org/maricopacounty.

May 19, Wine, Women & Jazz. See page 7 of this newsletter for more details.

May 30th at 12:00 pm, AWLA monthly luncheon. Please join us for our monthly luncheon featuring Gerry Kroloff who will be speaking about "Women and Heart Disease". This will qualify as one hour of ethics CLE. The lunch service will begin at noon at the Arizona Club located at the Chase Tower, 201 N. Central Ave, 38th Floor. RSVP by noon, Monday, May 28th, on our website.

June 4th at 1:30 pm, Supreme Court Tour with Vice Chief Justice Rebecca White Berch. Details can be found on our website. RSVP by noon Tuesday, **May 29** at www.awla-maricopa.org.

June 19 from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm, **Fifth Annual Summer Clerk Party.** The Maricopa Chapter of AWLA cordially invites Law Clerks, Attorney Recruiters and Members of the Judiciary. Details can be found on our website. RSVP by July 12 at www.awla-maricopa.org.

June 29: A new student-edited law review has been formed by students at Phoenix School of Law. The Editorial Board of *Phoenix Law Review* is currently soliciting full-length review articles for the inaugural issue. The Editorial Board encourages the submission of articles on any legal topic, but some preference may be given to legal topics relating to Arizona and to issues faced by underserved communities or neglected areas of the law.

The deadline for submission of

articles for the inaugural issue is June 29, The Editor-in-Chief of the *Phoenix Law Review*, is James D. Griffith, at jdgriffith@phoenixlaw.org.

For a detailed summary of the requirements for article submissions, please visit www.phoenixlaw.org. ▼

July 24-28, State Bar of Arizona: College of Trial Advocacy will be held at the Black Canyon Conference Center in Phoenix. The college is an intensive, five-day workshop that provides practical hands-on training for trial



lawyers. The program is designed to significantly develop and refine the skills necessary for excellence in trial practice. The faculty of highly qualified and experienced trial lawyers and judges from around Arizona work each day with small groups of students, help each student develop better understanding of trial preparation and to practice techniques and approaches that will work most effectively for the student. The emphasis of the College is on the student's preparation and presentation of a civil case, from the beginning of the trial to the closing argument. For more details go to <http://www.awla-maricopa.org>.

June 28-29, State Bar Convention: Members Only Convention Party on June 28, 6:00 to 8:00 pm. Held in honor of AWLA's past presidents. RSVP by 5:00 pm on Monday, June 25 at www.AWLA-maricopa.org.

June 29 at 7:30 am, Mary Anne Richey Scholarship Breakfast. Register at www.myazbar.org/convention.

August 18, Spa Day at Camelback Inn. Make your own appointments in the morning or afternoon (or both!), and RSVP to attend the lunch at 12:30 at Sprouts, the spa restaurant, with AWLA members. For information on spa services, go to www.camelbackspa.com/scottsdale-spa-resort. RSVP for lunch at www.awla-maricopa.org.

October 25, 6:00 pm, Arizona Women Lawyers Association Maricopa Chapter Thirtieth Anniversary Gala. The Association was formed in 1977 in order to promote and encourages the success of women lawyers in Maricopa County by providing members with information and support, by fostering connections among women lawyers, and by monitoring and celebrating the successes of members and women lawyers at-large in our community. Additional information on Sponsorship and Tickets for the event can be found on our website.

November 2, AWLA Planning Committee for 2007 State Convention. It will be hard to beat this year's event but we'll try to at least equal it! If you are interested in joining the Planning Committee, please contact Paige Martin at (480) 429-5000 or Paige.Martin@KutakRock.com.

**Submit Advertising,
Calendar items or Articles
by the last day of the month
to**

Pamela Donison
pamela@donisonlaw.com

**For submission guidelines,
news, jobs, and our Member
Directory, go to our website
at**

www.awla-maricopa.org

Arizona Women Lawyers Association - Maricopa Chapter
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as of May 1, 2007

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Gilbert, AZ 85299
(602) 218-5273
www.awla-maricopa.org
admin@awla-state.org

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2007 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION OR RENEWAL
(January 2007 – December 2007)

For AWLA Use Only
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Business Address: _____

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Email: _____ Year Admitted to Arizona Practice _____

NOTE: Your e-mail address is critical. Luncheon notices and other announcements are sent electronically only. AWLA newsletters are sent electronically also. Check here if you do not have an email address and require a paper copy.

Areas of Practice: (Select up to 5):

- Academic/Law Professor
Administrative
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Appellate
Arbitration/Mediation
Banking & Finance
Bankruptcy
Business/Corporations/Partnerships
Civil Rights
Construction
Corporate Counsel
Criminal
Education & School
Elder Law
Employment/Labor
Environment/Natural Resources
Estate Planning, Probate and Trust
Family
General
Government/Legislative
Guardianship/Conservatorship
Health/Social Security/Disability
Immigration
Indian
Injury & Wrongful Death
Insurance
Intellectual Property
Judiciary
Juvenile
Law Clerk
Law Student
Legal Malpractice/Ethics
Litigation - Civil
Litigation - Commercial
Medical Malpractice
Planning/Zoning/Land Use
Real Estate
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Tort
Utilities
Worker's Compensation
Other _____

Other State Bar Admissions: _____

Please return this application and a check made payable to AWLA for 2007 dues in the amount of
\$100 (Sustaining Member*) \$75 (Private Attorney earning more than \$50,000/yr)
\$50 (Public Attorney; or Private Attorney earning \$50,000/yr or less) \$10 (Law Student)

Send to: AWLA, P.O. Box 676
Gilbert, Arizona 85299

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Mother's Forum
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30th Anniversary
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For information on membership, please contact
Jill Ormond at 602.263.7312

* Sustaining Members receive special recognition in the directory and at AWLA events



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