

Governor Janet Napolitano Makes History for Arizona Women Lawyers

By Lisa Glow, Esq.

Last November's election truly was one for the history books. Janet Napolitano, already the first woman elected Arizona Attorney General, became the first woman to be elected outright to serve as Arizona's Governor. She became the first elected woman Governor to succeed another elected- woman Governor in American history. And, she was the first Democrat-elected Governor since Bruce Babbitt was re-elected in 1982.

Janet's path to Arizona history started in New Mexico. She was raised in Albuquerque where her father, Leonard Napolitano, was the dean of the school of medicine at the University of New Mexico. After high school, she moved to California to enroll at Santa Clara University, where she earned her bachelor's degree in political science in 1979.

Janet began her legal career as a law clerk on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals for Judge Mary Schroeder after graduating from the University of Virginia law school in 1983. She then joined the law firm of Lewis & Roca and was a partner from 1989-1993. In 1993, she was appointed by President Clinton to serve as the United States Attorney for the district of Arizona. In 1998 Arizona voters chose her for Attorney General.

I have had the opportunity to work with Janet for the last four years and asked for her candid response to a few questions.

Q: Why did you become a lawyer?

A: I thought law would match my skill set because it involves a lot of writing, analytical thinking and public speaking. When I was young, I used to love the dinner table conversations at my house, where I would talk about the events of the day with my brother, sister and parents. It gave me a love of current events, debate and rhetoric that made my attraction to the law a really natural progression. Years later, after law school, I did a judicial clerkship and quickly realized that one of my passions was oral advocacy which prompted me to later become an appellate attorney.

Q. What was your inspiration to go into politics?

A. I was really inspired to pursue a career in public service by my pro bono work as a private attorney. While I enjoyed working with nearly all of my clients, helping those who needed pro bono assistance was particularly gratifying, and I guess it just lit a spark in me. As U.S. Attorney for Arizona, and as this state's Attorney General, I have never been content to just hold the office. I want to *do* something with it. As Attorney General, I donated settlement money we won against a women's retail clothing store for deceptive marketing practices to domestic violence shelters. It is tremendously empowering to put the law to work for those in need. As Governor, I have the opportunity to combine two things I love to tackle – big public policy questions and the opportunity to help people on a very large scale.

Q. What types of pro bono service have you been involved in?

A. I have served on a number of non-profit boards like Community Legal Services, Phoenix Children's Hospital and the Actor's Lab of Arizona. I was also involved with Planned Parenthood of Central and Northern Arizona and other community organizations.



Governor Janet Napolitano

Q. What do you have to say to women who might have an interest in politics?

A. First and foremost, get involved. Start by working on a campaign and learning about the ins and outs of politics. Know that women have a natural ability to engage in the political process and shape the public agenda. They need to see their considerable skills as transferable to the political and public policy marketplace. And, be willing to take some risks, knowing that politics can be a wild ride but also a fun ride.

Q. What is your greatest achievement as a lawyer?

A. I think my greatest single achievement was dealing with a back log of child dependency cases at the Attorney General's Office and reducing that by 88 percent. Positively affecting children and families will always be important to me. And, I might add that this particular achievement was done with the hard work and assistance of a lot of dedicated attorneys in the Child & Family Protection Division of the Attorney General's Office, many of whom are women lawyers.

Q. In the span of your legal career, you have argued cases in many high places, including the World Court, the United States Supreme Court, Circuit Courts, and the Arizona appellate courts. Tell me about those events, including one valuable experience that you walked away with.

A. The World Court is a different experience altogether because the format is so different than what we're accustomed to in American courts. In the World Court, you have six hours a day to make your argument, which is very different than in this country. And the United States Supreme Court was a phenomenal opportunity to participate in argument in the most historic court in the country. For me, the key thing is oral advocacy—one of the great parts of practicing law—distilling an argument to its essence, thinking on your feet, and being able to handle questions from whatever corner they come from. It is also great fun.

Q. Greatest challenges facing women in the legal profession, what do you think those are?

A. Well, I still think the legal profession doesn't deal with working moms very well. Although, I'm not a working mom, I have many employees and colleagues who are working moms, both in private and in public office. I think the paradigm of practicing law is still built on the man who can work up a zillion hours, while his wife stays home and takes care of the kids. That's just not reality in these days, but the legal culture has not changed sufficiently to recognize that.

Q. What are your priorities for women as Governor?

A. My top priorities in my first year are, of course, fixing the budget and investing in our public education system. Where women particularly are concerned, my priorities include ensuring that women have access to health care (Arizona has the second worst record in the nation), ensuring that domestic violence and sexual assault victims (most of whom are women) obtain services and protection, ensuring quality child care is available, increasing access to medical care and family planning services and wage gap parity for women. These are all challenges that Arizona women face on a day-to-day basis. We also must address Arizona's high school drop out rates and teenage pregnancy rates, both of which greatly impact young women in Arizona.

Q. What do you think the greatest challenge is that lies ahead for you, personally, as you move into your role as Governor of Arizona?

A. In public office your life is no longer your own. I experienced that to a certain degree as United States Attorney and as Attorney General. But now I have a security detail and there is someone with me all the time. That's a big change. I'm used to getting up and going to work, to hike, to get a cup of coffee, to travel and so on. This is one major personal adjustment. The biggest challenge for the state that is also a personal challenge for me as the Governor is to face the most difficult fiscal crisis in Arizona history, while at the same time keeping the ball moving forward on issues of importance to Arizonans. But I have a great staff to help me meet those challenges and we are going to get the job done.

Editor's Note: Lisa Glow is employed by the Arizona Attorney General's office and is a member of the AWLA-Maricopa Chapter Steering Committee. This article reprinted with permission of the AWLA's Maricopa Chapter.

WOMEN IN THE LAW: Anne Graham-Bergin State President, Arizona Women Lawyers Association

By Patricia Lewis, AWLA Executive Director

Anne Graham-Bergin has been a member of AWLA since 1989, three years after she moved to Tucson to begin her law profession. She was formerly president and vice-president of the Southern Arizona Chapter and has been on the local steering committee most of the past 14 years. She joined the state-wide organization in 1998 and has filled three other Board of Directors' offices leading to her presidency this year.



AWLA State President Anne
Graham-Bergin

When asked about her aspirations for AWLA, Anne said, "Member diversity is an area that needs attention. I think the new Cochise County Chapter is a good sign that we're moving in that direction. I would also like to see more governmental and public lawyers join AWLA. Expanding our membership by promoting the formation of new chapters and encouraging participation by attorneys in the public/governmental arena will sustain AWLA's purpose and expand its resources." Anne also welcomes male members to the Arizona Women Lawyers Association, saying: "AWLA has always worked with men who ask for our endorsement of their judicial appointments. We have several male members now who have supported our goals and initiatives. We would like to see their numbers increase."

Mentoring is another area where AWLA members can make a difference. Our members have legal expertise covering all areas of the law. We acknowledge that more and more women have access to law schools. Nevertheless, there is still too much inequity for women in the profession.

AWLA members can help women challenge and overcome these obstacles to their professional success and growth.

Advocating for judicial appointments or elected offices is and has been a overriding goal for AWLA. Our membership's experience and knowledge about the appointment application process and election campaigns helps women and men inside and outside our membership compete for administrative or policy-making positions.

A Career in Law

Anne Graham-Bergin grew up in Laughton, Oklahoma. She was the only member of her family to go to college. When asked, "Why did you choose law school?" Anne said: "At that point, I understood I could use my analytical and reasoning skills to help others sort through issues. Of course, my parents were very supportive of my decision." She chose to attend George Washington University in Washington, D.C. There, like other law schools around the D.C. area, it was acceptable for law students to work full-time. Anne, ever the industrious student, worked 40-hour weeks as a paralegal and office administrator for most of her three-year stint at George Washington.

In June 1986, she moved to Tucson, and went to work for Leonard & Felker as a law clerk. Three years later, Anne chose to join Ken Chareau, a former attorney for Leonard & Felker, who had opened his own practice. In this office, Anne practiced real estate, construction, securities, estate planning and probate law. The diversity of her work there helped her identify what areas of law she preferred.

After working with Chareau for a year and half, Anne opened her own office in 1991. As a sole practitioner, she particularly enjoyed having the freedom to choose what kinds of issues to take on.

After six years, Anne went to work at Raven and Kirschner, where her practice included real estate, land use and elections law. Anne was most enthusiastic when asked about elections law, saying: "The issues are always different and interesting . . . requiring me to use a broad range of skills in a political environment.

It is also very fast-paced. Cases open and close in a relatively short period of time. I am most gratified by the sense of empowerment clients get when they get a referendum or proposal on the ballot. Clients often come in not understanding the process, and end up wanting to get more involved with local issues. It's an opportunity to learn how government works. You work with individuals who are directly impacted by the decisions made by legislators and policymakers."

Anne has argued cases that have gone to the Arizona Court of Appeals and the Arizona Supreme Court. She is now a sole practitioner once again.

On Her On Time

It is obvious that Anne is committed to her community. She does pro bono work for the Volunteer Lawyers Program and assists the Beacon Foundation with guardianship matters. She serves on the Board of Directors of the Arizona League of Conservation Voters and on the State Board of the Arizona Women's Political Caucus. She is also member of the American Bar Association, the Arizona State Bar Association and the Asian Bar Association.

Anne is married to Tom Bergin, a landscape artist. Together, they collect antiques and play co-ed softball in a city league. She relaxes by doing needlework projects including embroidery and stitching quilt pieces. Her cat adds entertainment and grounding to Anne's busy life.

Anne's focus, intellect and thoughtfulness is just right for today's AWLA as it transitions to a more diverse, activist organization.

Kettlewell Entertains & Enlightens Crowd

By Veronique Pardee



Pima County Public Defender Susan Kettlewell with Assistant defender Veronique Pardee.

Equipped with visual aids, Susan Kettlewell, the Pima County Public Defender, presented her top ten list of reasons to become a Public Defender. Speaking as a Public Defender, my favorite list items included looking young, staying thin and getting paid to question authority.

Our no-dress-code policy was mentioned and Susan showed the crowd her trademark Converse high-tops. Spending lots of time in jail (visiting clients) made the list and required some explanation. "It really is relaxing once you get there."

Judge Houghton wanted to know if it is true that the Public Defenders have a blackboard dedicated to "stupid things judges say." Several law students attended including one woman who was interested in becoming a Public Defender. In all, Susan was highly entertaining, informative and made an excellent case for the work of a Public Defender.

Members On the Move

The firm of Moore, Masunas & Moore, P.L.L.C. is happy to announce some changes in the firm. The firm name recently changed from Moore & Moore, Attorneys at Law, P.L.L.C., to Moore, Masunas & Moore, P.L.L.C. Annalisa got married in January and her new name is Annalisa Moore Masunas. Angela is now a partner in the firm with Annalisa and Royanna. Congratulations to Annalisa on her recent nuptials and to Angela on her promotion!

MARCH LUNCHEON

- DATE:** Monday, March 17, 2003
- TIME:** 12:00 o'clock, Noon
- PLACE:** The Arizona Inn, 2200 East Elm Street (The Tucson Room)
- COST:** \$15 Members
\$20 Non-Members
\$8 Students
- RSVP:** Call Pat Lewis at 514-8440 no later than 4:00 p.m., **Thursday, March 13**, or e-mail by the same deadline to azawla@yahoo.com. At press time, the menu options were not available. Please, in your RSVP, indicate whether you would like a vegetarian meal. Thanks!
- SPEAKER:** SINCLAIR BROWNING, LOCAL AUTHOR



Sinclair Browning, wife of United States District Court Judge William D. Browning, is the author of the acclaimed Trade Ellis mystery series. The books feature Trade Ellis, a woman who is part Apache, part rancher and all private eye against the backdrop of the modern Southwest. The 5th book in the series, Tragedy Ann, will be out this fall.

She has also published two historical novels “Enju, the Life and Times of an Aravaipa Apache Chief from the Little Running Water” and “America's Best” that was based on her husband's family during the time they were Japanese POWs in the Philippines. Sinclair is also the co-author of the best selling horse-training book, “Lyons on Horses.”

A woman who still calls herself a cowgirl, Sinclair has lived in Arizona since she was six years old. She still breaks horses, trains them, gathers cattle, tracks, and does a lot of trail riding.

She will be speaking with AWLA on “Feathers Brush My Heart,” an anthology of stories about mothers touching their daughters’ lives after death.

AWLA Says GoodBye to Charter Member Carol Wilson

By Laurel Sammons

On December 3, 2002, AWLA lost Carol Wilson, a unique charter member. This unusual, exceptional attorney organized the AWLA Newsletter and commissioned and approved the AWLA logo, still in use today. She died of a malignant, aggressive brain tumor, diagnosed in May of last year.

At her home on January 4, Mark and Karen Smith, her son and his wife, hosted a memorial for her. A diverse crowd of over 100 friends, colleagues, classmates and former husbands attended. As all enjoyed wine and chocolate, they browsed through a huge display of mementos of Carol's life from grade school in Colorado to law school in Tucson and beyond. These illustrated her full and varied life both in and out of the world of law.

After graduation from Stanford with a BA in French, she worked in an import-export firm and as an editor of a magazine. Her traveling then landed her in Scotland for a year where she found the weather "not too bad." Entering the U of A College of Law in 1968, she excelled, graduating with distinction fifth in her class in 1971. Her honors included the Eugenia Tull Barnes outstanding senior woman award. She noted, "There were three and a half women in my class."

Always an excellent English student while in private practice, she taught legal writing for two years. (Her English high school report card said, "Very Good," while most other subjects grades ranged from "poor" and "fail" to "uneven" and "could be better.")

Her law career took many turns from private general practice to corporate attorney for Alphagraphics to law teacher in North Carolina and DES hearing officer. Forever an advocate for women's rights, she successfully fought to change the community property law to give a wife equal control of community assets, formerly the prerogative of a husband.

In addition to her practice, Carol served the court system as a judge pro tempore. At the State Bar Association, she served on the Civil Practice and Procedure Committee from 1974 to 1978. As only its second woman president, she presided over the Pima County Bar in 1982-83. As a Libertarian candidate for Tucson City Council in 1976, Carol withdrew when she determined her election could not institute desired changes.

Since high school, Carol had been involved in musical theater, singing in the Arizona Opera Chorus and performing in Gilbert and Sullivan operas. (Her high school music report card showed all "Very Goods.") In the 1990's, her attendance at the France Academy of Dance included appearing in tap dance recitals at the Tucson Music Hall. She was an enthusiastic golfer and a casual bridge player.

Those who were lucky enough to know Carol will miss her ready barbed quips and her witty turn of speech. She did not suffer fools kindly. "Dim" was an adjective she pasted on many. Avoidance of this characterization was never easy.

Despite her critical eye, Carol was an enormously generous person. She became a big sister to a teenager through the teen years and beyond—even employing her as a receptionist-secretary. Last year, she hosted a German high school student for her senior year at Catalina High School. She had an absolutely wonderful time with Jana, teaching her to drive, taking her on trips, chauffeuring to school and to the mall. In some ways, Carol was still a teenager.

Her natural generosity existed quietly. She would care for your bird, walk your dog, loan you a printer, deliver and install it and help you start a law practice. She so spoiled her Lhasa Apsos, Priscilla and Trevor, she re-upholstered her chewed up furniture rather than discipline them (Much to the delight of her upholsterer.)

Carol presented a study in contradictions. "Never buy retail," was her motto. She loved thrift shops, TJ Maxx, and Ross Dress for Less. She disobeyed this maxim when she chose—driving a Jaguar, wearing a mink and TVO'ing her television—all the time keeping her house warm in summer and cool in winter.

Carol loved to travel. She enjoyed recent trips to Ireland and Alaska. Despite her illness, she planned

to go to Germany to visit her student—as recently as November of last year. Those who tried to discourage this plan felt the heat of classic Carol displeasure.

The gathering of the diverse group at her home testified to the durability and value of Carol's friendships and alliances over the years in and out of the practice of law. A glass of wine, a dish of chocolate and a light cigarette rested on the mantel next to her ashes as goodbyes were said. In the end, to the adjectives unusual, exceptional, unique and generous can be added, often outrageous but never dull or boring.

Calling All Moms & Tots!

The next Mother's Forum event is scheduled for Sunday, March 30 from 11:00 am to 12:15 pm at Paint Yourself Silly, 6546 E. Tanque Verde Rd. (885-4755). Please join other women lawyers and their children for a painting party. Each mom and child will select and pay for their own pottery (ranging from \$16-\$22). There are over 120 paint colors plus stencils, stickers, sponges, and stamps. After painting, each item will be glazed and fired. The masterpieces will be ready for pickup in 4-7 days. Bring your lunch and after painting, we will head over to Udall Park for a picnic (weather permitting). Please RSVP to Lisa Abrams at 743-1999, no later than Wednesday, March 26, 2003 (we need at least 6 mom-and-child pairings to do this event).

**To RSVP, Change an Address or Send News...Email
AZAWLA@YAHOO.COM**



**CONGRATULATIONS TO U OF A
COLLEGE OF LAW STUDENT
JACQUELINE LANNI, THIS YEAR'S
AWLA-MARGARET M. HOUGHTON
SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT!**

**AWLA Sarah Herring Sorin Award
2003 Nomination**

DESCRIPTION: This Award is named in honor of Sarah Herring Sorin, Arizona's first woman lawyer, and will be presented at the Mary Anne Richey Breakfast on June 13, 2003, during the State Bar Convention.

CRITERIA: An AWLA Member who has demonstrated support and encouragement for the advancement of women in the legal profession. The recipient may not be a current member of the State AWLA Board.

NOMINATION: I nominate the following AWLA member for the Sarah Herring Sorin Award:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ **Fax:** _____ **E-mail:** _____

NOMINEE'S QUALIFICATIONS (attach separate page, if necessary):

NOMINATED BY:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ **Fax:** _____ **E-mail:** _____

Return the Nomination Form by 5:00 p.m., May 9, 2003 to AWLA, P.O. Box 2525, Tucson, AZ 85702, or fax by the same deadline to (520) 514-1170.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- March 13** **23rd Annual Marks Lecture**
 “In-laws and Outlaws”
 PATRICIA J. WILLIAMS, James L. Dohr Professor of Law, Columbia University
 Law School and columnist, *The Nation*
 Location: University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law
- March 13** **AWLA Steering Committee Meeting at Gabroy, Rollman & Bossé, 3507 N.
 Campbell Ave., Suite 111**
- March 17** **AWLA Luncheon featuring local author Sinclair Browning**
- March 30** **AWLA Moms & Tots event at “Paint Yourself Silly”**

AWLA

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