

OAJ Medical Malpractice Section Article August 2013

By: Sydney McLafferty

This year's Women's Caucus got off to a great start at the May convention where we heard from OAJ member and State Representative Connie Pillich (Cincinnati). Connie's inspiring discussion focused on how she has relied upon her experience as a trial lawyer to her work with fellow legislators, many of whom are not lawyers, as to the real world implications of the legislation they create. A natural byproduct of that discussion was the kind invitation extended by Connie for women's caucus members to attend a reception hosted by the House Democrat Women's Caucus. Members of both groups got together on May 21st for an opportunity to meet and discuss. It was also a great opportunity to chat with Connie who had just recently announced she was running for the office of State Treasurer. We wish Connie all the best with her race next year.

As was recently reported on the Women's Caucus listserv by past president Rhonda Davis, OAJ lost one of their own, Annie Rooney, of Chillicothe. Annie was a young, vibrant attorney who many of you may have met at the convention in May. Our sympathies go out to her family and colleagues in and around Chillicothe as they mourn her loss.

As we look ahead to the fall months, the Women's Caucus is working to establish regional networking groups. The Columbus/Central Ohio region continues to meet every six weeks; with the next meeting scheduled for August 14th. Please contact me, ssm@protectingohio.com for more information. Women's Caucus vice-chair, Anne Gilday, will be reaching out to members in the Cincinnati area and Ellen McCarthy has also graciously agreed to help with the Cleveland regional networking group. Please contact Anne (algilday@lawrencefirm.com) or Ellen (emccarthy@nphm.com) for more information in those areas.

We are still looking for volunteers to coordinate meetings in the Toledo, Akron/Canton, and Dayton areas. Please contact me if you are interested in taking the lead in your area.

Plans are in the works for other Women's Caucus events throughout the year. If you are not receiving the women's caucus listserv emails, contact OAJ to manage your listserv subscriptions to stay in the loop.