

WOMEN LAWYERS OF UTAH

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FALL RETREAT

On November 5-6, 2004 Women Lawyers of Utah once again held its annual Fall Retreat at Deer Valley. We had excellent attendance by students and attorneys from a variety of practice areas. Friday evening the participants enjoyed spending time at the beautiful Silver Creek Lodge socializing, meeting fellow members and dining.

Dinner was followed with the Honorable Judith S. H. Atherton presenting the Reva Beck Bosone Scholarship. The scholarship was given to Carrie Towner, a student at the University of Utah S.J. Quinney School of Law and member of the Women's Law Caucus.



Lauren Scholnick, Anne Milne, Magistrate Brooke Wells, and April Hollingsworth

This presentation was followed by a unique keynote address entitled "Using Powerful Gender Communication Skills" given by Irene Link, a communications specialist. The ideas that Ms. Link set forth sparked lively discussion among the participants after dinner and continued long into the evening at WLU's hospitality suite.

Saturday morning the retreat participants were treated to a wonderful breakfast and panel discussion at the Silver Creek Lodge. The panel

written by Julie Wray



Nanci S. Bockelie and Chief Justice Christine M. Durham

discussion was moderated by WLU board member and former President, Lauren Barros and panelists were four prominent Utah lawyers: Magistrate Brooke Wells, Jane Conard, Jennifer Falk and Carolyn McHugh.

The panelists were faced with a variety of questions, including effective communication inside and outside the courtroom and working with their male counterparts.

WLU thanks all of you who participated in the Annual Retreat and would especially like to thank our panel members for devoting their time and expertise. We hope to see everyone at our 2005 retreat.

JUST ANOTHER LUNCHEON? HARDLY!

written by Alicia Denning



Chief Justice Christine M. Durham, Catherine Brabson and Tracey Watson

It was one of those occasions when I felt I was part of a very important moment in time. In the rustic elegance of a dining room at Deer Valley Resort, in the mountains above Park City, Utah, I sat down to a casual luncheon with eighteen other Utah women lawyers serving on the Board or were founding members of the Women Lawyers of Utah. Our experience as women lawyers in Utah dated back to the 1960s, when women lawyers anywhere in our country were still viewed and treated as the equivalent of oh, say, space aliens.

We sat as we chose at three separate tables, no assigned seats. We had random conversation at each table as we ate — about the WLU Annual Fall Retreat, which had closed just before our luncheon, about our various occupations as lawyers, and about personal things. I was reminded of how good it is to talk with other professional women who, like me, have full and interesting lives and experiences into which our

work as lawyers is woven.

As we finished eating, the conversation became unified in the room, and then came some reminiscing. Chief Justice Christine Durham and Judge (retired) Eleanor Van Sciver shared their individual and collective memories of what it was like to be a woman lawyer in Utah during the final decades of the 20th century. Their stories were captivating, and we all agreed that we should arrange for a recording of their recollections and those of other early Utah women lawyers.

A highlight of the conversation was the telling by each of these notable women of some of the events that occurred in the 1970s surrounding the effort to secure Utah's ratification of a federal Equal Rights Amendment. Each woman's spoken recollections prompted a sense of the impassioned, dramatic scenes in which they'd had prominent roles. It was quite moving to be in the close presence of Judge Van Sciver and Chief Justice Durham, women lawyers who were active in this historical movement to further the cause of women in Utah.

Others in the room soon told stories of other early gatherings of Utah women lawyers, get-togethers that evolved into our current WLU. We talked about what our organization has been, and brainstormed ideas of what we might want it to become. The current WLU Board will meet in a special strategic planning session in February to set out a framework that incorporates many of the ideas discussed that day.

We can gain much from stopping to remember where we have come from. WLU has a significant role to play today, just as those women lawyers who came before us did. I know that the current WLU Board is energized as we move ahead in carrying out the mission of our organization: to provide opportunities for women lawyers to develop and advance their careers, and to further the cause of women in Utah generally.

WOMEN LAWYER'S MENTORING SOCIAL

written by Tracey Watson

The WLU held its annual mentoring social at Green Street on January 20th. For some unknown reason, our ACLU staff attorney, Margaret Plane volunteered to do all the set up and arrangements so all we had to do was show up and have fun. And, that's exactly what we did.

The turn out was excellent and the party lasted well past the 7:30 p.m. anticipated "return to your families" time. Spotted in the crowd were the following: Julie Wray, our dedicated WLU President; Lauren Barros our most popular WLU mentor; Polly Samuels; Susan Mueller; Randy Robinson; Martha Pierce; Angelina Tsu; Lisa Gray and Michelle Swift. In addition, we saw Carolyn Nichols sweep in to pitch for more women to enter the government law practice (no softball pun intended). Laurie Gilliland, our soon to be newest board member, also drew a crowd around her. We even had representation from the S.J. Quinney College of Law Faculty when Professor Laura Kessler joined us to update us on life on the hill.

(Continued on page 7)

REVA BECK BOSONE SCHOLARSHIP *written by Andrea Dremann*

Each year, a dedicated University of Utah law student is presented with the Reva Beck Bosone Scholarship. The scholarship was presented by Judge Judith S.H. Atherton this year to Carrie Towner at the WLU Fall Retreat.

Reva Beck Bosone was, as people like to say, a woman ahead of her time. She was born on April 2, 1895 in the small town of American Fork, Utah, and showed early promise as an orator. Although she considered a career in the theater, she instead turned to teaching and upon her graduation from the University of California at Berkley taught for several years first in Delta and then Ogden.

In 1927 she entered law school at the University of Utah, and later married classmate Joseph P. Bosone. She and her husband opened up their law offices in Helper, Utah in 1930. Although she lost her first case defending, Reva successfully defended two men in a well-publicized case of attempted rape. The victory and resulting notoriety helped her to obtain a seat in the Utah House of Representatives in 1932. She co-sponsored in

Utah the Child Labor Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which failed ratification. In 1936 she successfully ran for city judge, and became the first woman to be elected as a judge in Utah. She

served three terms, during which time she supported efforts to establish adult alcoholism and rehabilitation programs.

During World War II, Judge Bosone was heavily involved with the Salt Lake County Welfare Commission, the Civilian Advisory Committee of the 9th Service Command of the Women's Army Corps, and the United Nations. In 1948 Judge Bosone was elected to the United States Congress, where she served two terms. While in congress, she became the first woman to serve on the Interior Committee. In keeping with her outspoken and energetic approach, she became actively involved with American Indian policy and reclamation projects.

In 1952 Reva Bosone was engaged in a bitter and intense re-election



Judge Judith Atherton and Carrie Towner

campaign, including false charges against her of being a communist sympathizer which arose from her vote against funding for the CIA. As one of only four House members to do so, she explained that she was not willing to fund an agency which refused to provide information about its use of the funds. Although she lost to William Dawson, she went on to pursue her legal career, and continued to be actively involved in the community. She retired in 1968, and spent the last 15 years of her life enjoying her family, speaking at community and political events, and encouraging women to "raise more hell".

- See: Beverly B. Clopton, *Her Honor, The Judge* (1980)
- K.L. MacKay, *Utah History Encyclopedia*

THOROUGHLY MODERN ART:NEW EXHIBITION OF EARLY 20TH CENTURY WOMEN ARTISTS TO OPEN AT BYU MUSEUM OF ART

This first-ever exhibition of the women art students of Robert Henri will include paintings, prints, drawings, sculpture, textiles and furniture by 31 women artists who studied under Henri from the 1890s through the 1920s. Some of the better known artists in the exhibition include painter and printmaker Isabel Bishop, who was the first female teacher at the Art Students League in New York and was the first woman elected to the

National Institute of Arts and Letters; painter and illustrator Peggy Bacon, who contributed short stories, verse and illustrations to numerous magazines, and authored or illustrated more than 70 books; and muralist Minerva Teichert, who was urged by Henri to paint "the great Mormon Story" and placed more than 60 murals in public buildings in Utah and Wyoming during the 1930s alone.

The BYU Museum of Art will host an opening reception for the exhibit on Thursday, February 24th at 7:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served, and the event is free and open to the public.

Museum hours: Monday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday from noon to 5 p.m.; closed Sunday

- *Watch your thoughts; they become words.*
- *Watch your words; they become actions.*
- *Watch your habits; they become character.*
- *Watch your character; it becomes your destiny.*

--Frank Outlaw

UTAH WOMEN AND THE LAW: A RESOURCE HANDBOOK

. *Written by Alicia Henning*

In a notable opportunity to act upon our organization's mission to further the cause of women in Utah, WLU is participating in a project to revise *Utah Women and the Law: A Resource Handbook*. The book was originally a project of the Utah Governor's Commission for Women and Families (now the Utah Commission for Women and Families). It was written to provide an overview of the laws concerning the most common legal problems faced by women. The particular target

audience is women who, for various reasons, have limited access to legal resources.

The first edition was published in 1987, and revised editions were published in 1991 and 1998. The current revision will be published in 2005, and 5 of our members have volunteered to serve as chapter content editors for 4 of the current 18 chapters in the book. Along with other volunteers, our members Reha Deal, Adelaide Maudsley, Robin Ravert, Mickell Jimenez Rowe, and

Alicia Henning will update and supplement the information in the book to reflect developments in the law that have occurred since 1998.

The book will be provided without charge to organizations that serve women in the target audience, and that serve Utah women generally. It will be available in English and Spanish, and will be accessible on line through various web sites, including the Utah State Bar site.

WHAT ABOUT IDENTITY THEFT?

written by Michele Morin

I recently participated in a seminar on Identity Fraud that was presented by Special Agent Kelly Wuthrich of the Utah Attorney Generals Office Identity Fraud Unit. It was shocking to learn some of the facts concerning this fraud in our own backyards.

According to the Utah Attorney Generals' Office, in 2003, there were 2,447 identity theft complaints filed by Utah residents and 9.9 million Americans were victimized in 2003. 85% of the victims reported that their personal information was used for financial gain by the perpetrator. Here in Utah, the average financial loss to businesses due to the 2003 identity theft figures was \$4,800 and the personal loss to the victims was approximately \$1,300 per victim.

Identity thieves want a victim's name, address, telephone number, driver's license number, social security number, place of employment, mother's maiden name and pin numbers. Common ways that perpetrators obtain personal information is through applications, theft of purse or wallet, mail theft, over the telephone and internet.

We can protect ourselves by never giving or listing our social security numbers on applications. The only legitimate purpose for providing a social security number is for medical or lending purposes. Destroy unwanted credit offers. Do not put any identifying information on personal checks except for your name and address. Shred sensitive documents prior to discarding in the garbage. Do not carry your social security card, passport or birth certificate in your wallet or purse. Do not put your social security number on your driver's license. Photocopy everything you carry in your purse/wallet to make any cancellation easier.

Review your credit report twice a year to make sure that there haven't been any new cards or accounts issued that you were not aware of. Contact the credit reporting agencies through the website www.annualcreditreport.com or toll-free (877) 322-8228. Never give out personal information on the telephone or via the internet. There are current scams where a telephone call or email is placed to "verify" private informa-

tion. This verification process asks for personal identifying information that is all a perpetrator needs to steal your identity. Review your monthly credit card statements.

If you have been a victim of identity theft, contact the FTC and file a report: **(877) ID-Theft**. Contact your creditors for any of your open accounts. Contact the three major credit bureaus and place a "fraud alert" on your file: Equifax-(888) 766-3742; Experian-(888) 397-3742; TransUnion-(800) 680-7289. Notify the Social Security Administration and put an alert on your social security card: (800) 269-0271.

Men are not the enemy, but the fellow victims. The real enemy is women's denigration of themselves.

—Betty Friedan

SAVE THOSE UNUSED TOILETRIES!

Have you ever wondered about how to put the unused soap, shampoo, and other toiletries provided by hotels and motels to good use? If so, consider taking them to one of our local shelters for use by the residents.

CHRISTINE M. DURHAM WOMAN LAWYER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Due March 15, 2005

Eligibility:

Any woman who is a member of the Utah State Bar and is actively involved in a law-related activity, including government, education, the judiciary, private practice, or corporate work is eligible for the award.

Criteria:

The recipient of the award shall have:

1. demonstrated professional excellence and integrity;
2. through her work and activities displayed an awareness of the needs and concerns of women;
3. helped to advance the position of women generally or in the legal profession.

Procedure:

Nominations should be made in writing, naming the person, describing her qualifications and stating generally why she should be considered for the award. All nominations should be provided to:

Evelyn Furse
Bendinger, Crockett, Peterson, Greenwood & Casey,
170 South Main, Suite 400,
Salt Lake City, UT 84101-3636,

or may be submitted by e-mail to:

ejf@bendinger-crockett.com

WOMEN'S WEEK AT THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

The University of Utah's annual Women's Week is February 28 to March 4, 2005. Women's week recognizes and celebrates the historical and contemporary contributions of women. This is an annual event which creates a forum for the community to discuss issues that affect women.

This year's activities include an art show by V. Kim Martinez; a campus/community panel discussion on the barriers women face as they work to increase their earning potential; a performance of *Nickel & Dimed*, a play by Joan Holden based on Barbara Ehrenreich's book; and the keynote address by Ehrenreich. For complete information on all events, visit www.womensweek.utah.edu/2005.

UPCOMING EVENTS

ANNUAL SPRING FIRESIDE

Women Lawyers of Utah will hold their annual Spring Fireside on April 12, 2005 at 5:30 p.m. at the Club House for the Northpoint Condominiums. The Christine M. Durham Woman Lawyer of the Year Award will be announced (see article on following page). RSVP to Evelyn Furse at ejf@bendinger-crockett.com

BANTER WITH THE BENCH

Date, time and location to be announced.

ANNUAL WLU MEETING IN MAY

Date, time and location to be announced.

CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION

WLU will be co-chairing an upcoming CLE on *Becoming a Judge*. Date, time, location and details to be announced.

JUDICIAL VACANCY

The Utah Court of Appeals has announced a judicial vacancy. Completed applications must be received by the Administrative Office of the Courts no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, February 28th.

*Life shrinks or
expands in proportion to
one's courage.*

Anais Nin

GRAPEVINE

Alison B. Mohr is back with Parsons Behle & Latimer, in their intellectual property and technology department, focusing her practice on patent preparation and prosecution, including biotechnology, medical, pharmaceutical and biochemical patents.

Lauren Scholnick was presented with the Pro Bono Lawyer of the Year Award. Scholnick volunteers in a number of ways, including the past 5 years with the Street Law Project. One night per week she also volunteers at the Guadalupe School Clinic, helping many non-English speaking clients with their legal issues.

Sharon Eblen – formerly ALJ for the Utah Labor Commission’s Adjudication Division is now with Blackburn & Stoll.

Joanne Wetzer is with the Disability Center.

Christine Greenwood has left Kerns River Gas to go into private practice with James Magleby at Magleby & Greenwood PC.

RECENT UTAH BAR ADMITEES & NEW WLU MEMBERS

- **Ann S. Thomas** – Marsh USA Risk & Insurance Services Inc.
- **Brynn Bowen** – Law Office of Travis Bowen, PC
- **Lori Jackson** – Strong & Hanni’s business group.
- **Amy Poulsen** – Holland & Hart
- **Jessie Creighton** – joined Ballard Spahr in their Real Estate Department
- **Jenifer Tomchak**, who recently joined Parr,

Waddoups, Brown, Gee & Loveless, will take a leave of absence for one-year to begin a judicial clerkship with Justice Mathew B. Durrant.

UTAH STATE GOVERNMENT

- **Yvette Donoso Diaz** recently made the move to Christensen & Jensen before being appointed to the position of Executive Director Designee of Community Arts.
- **Michele Christiansen** has been appointed to the position as Executive Director of the Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice.
- **Lisa-Michelle Church**, past President of WLU, has been appointed Executive Director of Human Resources.

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But what made the evening really enjoyable and fun were the number of students either invited or forced to attend by Joanna Miller, the S.J. Quinney, President of the Women’s Law Caucus. Joining Joanna were Carrie Towner, Nate Sanders, Erin Arnold, Susan

Baird, Marisa Black, Nora Brunelle, Elizabeth Grau, Kate Gunnison, Catherine Blake, Chrystal Mancuso-Smith, Stacey Ford, Jamie Gibbs, Cassandra Hansen; Mitchell Maio; Carol Mortensen; Victoria Ryder, Rebecca Ryon, Serena Serassio; Tiffany Smith; Lisa Estrada and Diana Telfer.

There are probably a few great people whom I have inadvertently omitted; but all in all it was a party worth attending! Mentor/Mentee assignments will be forthcoming.

*We are not
what we know
but what
we are willing
to learn.*
—Mary Catherine Bateson

WLU
PO BOX 932
SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84110

WHY JOIN WLU?
As stated succinctly by the National Conference of Women's Bar Associations: "To be successful, every attorney must build a network. Joining a women's bar can jumpstart this process. The opportunities for business referrals and access to resources for substantive legal and practical advice and possibilities for leadership positions and visibility in the profession are all present in women's bar associations." <http://www.ncwba.org>

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Any person who is a graduate of or a student at an accredited law school or a member of the Utah State Bar is eligible for membership in WLU. At present, we have approximately 275 members. The benefits of membership include a quarterly newsletter, social gatherings and a vote on important issues. Mail this form and your check to:

WLU, PO Box 932, Salt Lake City, UT 84110

NAME: _____

TELEPHONE: (home/office): _____ In practice < 3 years: \$30

Email Address: _____ In practice 3+ years: \$40

MAILING ADDRESS (home or office): Law Students: \$15

LAW SCHOOL & YEAR OF GRADUATION: _____

UTAH STATE BAR NO.: _____

AREA(S) OF PRACTICE: _____

DISCLAIMER: This Newsletter is meant to inform, educate, and support the women lawyers in Utah. Articles reflect the opinion of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions or positions of WLU or its Board. We gladly accept submissions for publication about issues or events of interest or importance to you. We will publish position pieces by candidates for bar positions who are fully paid members of WLU, but do not endorse any candidates for Bar positions or other public office. WLU reserves the right to refuse to publish any item for any reason.