Planned Parenthood leaders to address reproductive rights at June luncheon

By Paula Roach

Planned Parenthood officials will present a thought-provoking presentation about women’s reproductive rights, including a historical legal perspective as well as an overview of the current legal challenges women face nationwide, at Lawyers Club’s June 17 luncheon.

As a special summer promotion, Lawyers Club members can bring a guest to the June luncheon for free.

Local Planned Parenthood board chair Tracy Loughridge and president and CEO Darrah DiGiorgio Johnson will discuss the role Planned Parenthood has played locally, statewide and nationally in opposing efforts to restrict and eliminate funding for women’s reproductive rights medical services. They also will explain Planned Parenthood’s efforts to maintain statewide family planning funding and opposition to recent ballot propositions that jeopardize the safety and health of our youth.

Planned Parenthood of San Diego & Riverside Counties is the second largest affiliate in the nation, serving close to 300,000 patient visits per year, with a staff of more than 500, and 19 health centers and programs throughout San Diego, Riverside and Imperial Counties.

Johnson was named president and CEO of the local Planned Parenthood in January 2006, following a national search for a new executive to head the affiliate. Before coming to Southern California, Johnson worked with a Planned Parenthood affiliate in New Jersey. There, she began her career as a community educator providing age-appropriate, comprehensive sex education in various schools and communities. She then spent 10 years in various leadership positions, with several of those years as the president of the New Jersey affiliate.

Before her career with Planned Parenthood, Johnson was an elementary education teacher working primarily with disadvantaged children. Through that experience, she gained first-hand knowledge of the critical importance that all children be loved and nurtured. Her passion led her to a career with Planned Parenthood, whose core mission is to provide unfettered access to affordable reproductive health care, education, and advocacy for all women, regardless of their life circumstances.

Loughridge has served on Planned Parenthood’s board of directors since 2006, and she is currently in her second year as chair of the board. She is also a member of Planned Parenthood’s Action Fund, the non-profit’s separate political arm that ensures reproductive choice through education and bipartisan political action.

Loughridge, who served as president of Lawyers Club from 2004 to 2005, currently serves on Lawyers Club’s Advisory Board and chairs the Reproductive Choice Committee. She previously has co-chaired the Community Outreach Committee. Loughridge, who does not currently practice law, spent most of her legal career in Los Angeles focused primarily on the defense of product liability cases, particularly cases involving catastrophic accidents.

Johnson and Loughridge each also stay active raising their children. Johnson keeps busy with her two sons, who love soccer, swimming, and anything superhero-related, while Loughridge has two daughters whose interests include music, art and gymnastics. Johnson and Loughridge enjoy trading stories about the gender differences of their children.

As the leaders of an organization providing health care to hundreds of thousands of patients annually, Johnson and Loughridge will share their inside perspective about the needs of communities, the challenges of implementing medical care reform, and dealing with political opposition, legal attacks, and antiabortion protesters. During their presentation, they will share their views of the healthcare needs of local communities and the importance of protecting access to birth control, accurate education, confidential medical services and abortion.

Paula Roach is an associate at Robbins, Geller, Rudman & Dowd, LLP and a member of Lawyers Club’s Reproductive Choice Committee.
President's Message

Empowering women and girls, creating catalysts for change

By Kate Kowalewski

In my initial President’s Message last July, I began the year discussing the continuing relevancy of Lawyers Club and its mission. As my year is drawing to a close, I am more convinced than ever of the importance of our organization and our purpose in seeking to advance the status of women in law and society.

I recently read the book, “Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide” by Nicholas D. Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn. The name “Half the Sky” is derived from a Chinese proverb that “women hold up half the sky.” Many of you may already be familiar with this bestselling book but for those of you who are not, the book argues that one of the primary human rights violations of our times is the oppression of women in our society. The book’s central theme is that the best way to fight poverty and extremism is to educate and empower women and girls. The authors assert that gender inequality is not just a moral issue but it is also an economic issue, and the key to fighting global poverty is by achieving gender equality.

The book’s thesis goes to the heart of our mission. While Lawyers Club’s main focus is on the local San Diego community rather than on the broader global community, our goal is the same – to educate and empower women in our society. Diversity and gender equality are not just about what is “fair” or “right,” but they are also about what is best for our society and even for our businesses and law firms. Diversity in a law firm setting increases the quality of legal service we can provide to our clients. In fact, many clients already see the value in having diverse law firms represent them, and several large companies have recently begun dropping law firms who lack diversity.

In addition to sharing their perspectives and insights into how women can serve as economic catalysts for change, the authors of “Half the Sky” also discuss ideas for implementing change. This idea of change ties in with our recent Annual Dinner theme of “Catalyst for Change.” The theme this year is quite appropriate and fitting for our organization as Lawyers Club has long been a driving force in our legal community, in helping to change perceptions and break down barriers for women. The powerful strength of our organization results from the incredible efforts of our members who have volunteered over the years to carry out our mission.

Moreover, the impact of Lawyers Club is not limited to the work that we as an organization have done over the years. It is also a culmination of the work and individual accomplishments and achievements of our members. Many of our members have been catalysts for change on their own over the years as they have been trailblazers in their industry or profession, paving the way for many of us today.

Before I officially turn the President’s Message over to Wendy Behan, I would like to say that it has been an amazing year. I have learned so much while serving on the Lawyers Club board over the past four years, and I have met so many incredible and inspiring individuals. And while I will miss leading this extraordinary organization, I do look forward to moving on to new opportunities and to promoting the mission of Lawyers Club in my future endeavors.

One final closing thought – I would like to take this opportunity to thank Joan Friedenberg, Vicky Frank and Betty Boone for all of their help and assistance throughout the year. Lawyers Club is quite fortunate to have such dedicated and gifted women to help support and shape our organization.

“Diversity and gender equality are not just about what is ‘fair’ or ‘right,’ but they are also about what is best for our society and even for our businesses and law firms.”

Renew your Lawyers Club membership

It’s time to renew your Lawyers Club membership for 2010-11. Look for the personalized renewal invoice that will be e-mailed to you this month.

Current memberships expire at the end of June, and the new membership year runs from July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011. Members who joined in March or later will automatically have their memberships carried over for the new year.

Lawyers Club offers many ways for its members to be more active in the legal community. Consider signing up for the Mentor/Mentee program and share your experiences with a law student or new attorney, or be matched with a mentor if you’re a student or new attorney. You also can get involved in the many programs and events Lawyers Club sponsors throughout the year – monthly speaker luncheons, community service projects, the Women’s Resource Fair, the Champagne & Chocolate Affair fundraiser, the annual golf tournament, the annual dinner, and social and networking events. You can explore issues of common interest, participating in and leading committees that focus on Balance, Equality, Leadership Development, Legislation, Reproductive Choice, and more.

And, most importantly, your continued membership helps support Lawyers Club’s mission of advancing the status of women in law and society.

To learn more about everything Lawyers Club has to offer, visit www.lawyersclubsandiego.com.

If you have questions about your membership, contact Lawyers Club at (619) 595-0650 or info@lawyersclubsandiego.com.
About Us
Lawyers Club members making news

Honored
The Daily Journal Corp. has named Lawyers Club Sustaining Member Juanita Brooks one of California’s “Leading IP Litigators.” The company, which publishes the Los Angeles Daily Journal, honored 75 intellectual property attorneys throughout the state, including only two in San Diego. Brooks is a principal of Fish & Richardson.

Lawyers Club board member and patron member Danielle Hickman was honored by Girls, Inc. at the non-profit youth organization’s May 14 “Strong, Smart and Bold Women Awards” luncheon. Hickman, a San Diego County deputy district attorney, took home the “Strong Women” award. Hickman’s boss, Bonnie Dumanis, San Diego County’s District Attorney, also was nominated for the award.

Lawyers Club member Lann McIntyre recently was selected to serve as president-elect of the University of San Diego Law Alumni Association Board of Directors. She will serve as president of the 35-member board in 2011.

Published

On the Move
Lawyers Club Sustaining Member Amber Eck has joined Zeldes & Haeggquist as a partner. Eck, who previously was a partner at Coughlin Stoia Geller Rudman & Robbins LLP and an associate at Chapin Fleming & Winet, litigates complex individual and class actions, including securities fraud and shareholder derivative actions.

Lawyers Club member Amanda Abbott has established a solo practice, the Law Office of Amanda S. Abbott, PC, practicing health care law with an emphasis on HIPAA compliance and health care professional licensure defense. Abbott, who also is a registered nurse, previously was an associate with Hooper, Lundy & Bookman. She can be found online at www.aabollaw.com.

Lawyers Club member Kelly Ann Tran has joined Mulvaney, Kahan & Barry LLP, where she focuses primarily on bankruptcy law. She graduated from UCLA with a B.A. in political science, and she received her J.D. from American University’s Washington College of Law in 2007.

Have you spoken at a professional conference? Have you changed jobs? Have you won any recent awards? Don’t be shy about sharing your good news.

Submit news of your or your colleagues’ career accomplishments – awards, promotions, job changes, board appointments, published articles, presentations, etc. – to Lawyers Club News editor Jodi Cleesattle at jodi.cleesattle@doj.ca.gov. The deadline for each issue of Lawyers Club News is the first of the month prior to that issue.
Kick off summer at Lawyers Club Wine & Cheese Reception in Carmel Valley

By Noel Egnatios

Ready or not, summer is quickly approaching. Lawyers Club will greet the season with its semi-annual Wine & Cheese reception on Thursday, June 10 from 5 to 7 p.m. For the first time, Lawyers Club will hold this event in North County, at the offices of Mintz Levin Cohn Ferris Glovsky & Popeo in Carmel Valley, 3580 Carmel Mountain Road, Suite 300.

The reception will honor Lawyers Club mentors and mentees and will provide a great opportunity for all members to mingle and make new friends – with plenty of wine, margaritas and hors d’oeuvres for all.

While the Wine & Cheese receptions are traditionally held downtown, Lawyers Club Events Committee co-chair Kimberly Ahrens said the new location will draw in lawyers from North County who may not want to battle traffic downtown to come to after-work events.

“Our members are located all throughout San Diego County, and many have asked for events in this part of North County,” Ahrens said. “We hope that members make a strong showing at the event and share a drink or two with us.”

The focus of the event will be for student mentees to connect with their mentors and to meet other members of the San Diego legal community. Two prize drawings will offer prizes aimed at helping students land jobs and helping mentors and mentees get to know each other better. All mentor-mentee pairs who attend will be entered in a drawing for two free tickets to a Lawyers Club luncheon, and all students who attend will be entered in a drawing for an interview coaching skills session and a copy of the book “Nail Your Law Job Interview.”

“Mentoring is an important function of Lawyers Club,” Student Committee co-chair Neetu Deol said. “In a formal setting, it provides wonderful networking and career enhancement opportunities, and in a more informal setting, it provides a chance for mentors and mentees to develop friendships based not only on common ground within the legal field, but even outside of the legal field through common interests in community involvement, hobbies, family life and balance.”

The Wine & Cheese reception is free, but members and guests should RSVP to (619) 595-0650 or online at www.lawyersclubsandiego.com.

If you are interested in planning events for Lawyers Club members, join the Events Committee. Contact Kelly Rand at Kelly.Rand@sdcda.org, Noel Egnatios at negnatios@cooley.com or Kimberly Ahrens at ka@ahrenslawoffice.com

Noel Egnatios is an associate at Cooley LLP and co-chair of Lawyers Club’s Events Committee.
Return to Summer Wine and Cheese Reception

Thursday, June 10th 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Mintz Levin Cohn Ferris Glovsky & Popeo

3580 Carmel Mountain Road, Suite 300, San Diego 92130

Join Lawyers Club of San Diego in honoring our wonderful Mentors and Mentees. All are welcome and it’s free! RSVP to rsvp@lawyersclubsandiego.com or (619) 595-0650.
Get your clubs and summer attire ready for Lawyers Club’s 18th Annual “Summer Swing Fling” Golf Tournament, set for Friday, July 9.

The tournament will be held at the Rancho Bernardo Inn, with a shotgun start at 1 p.m., and should finish in time for happy hour at the 19th hole. Join Lawyers Club for lunch, contests, raffles, happy hour and dinner immediately following the tournament.

Throughout the tournament, players can compete for prizes in contests rewarding the longest drive, best putt, and closest to the pin. And if any lucky player hits a hole-in-one during the contest, he or she will take home the grand prize of $10,000.

Lawyers Club also presents awards to the best men’s, women’s and mixed teams, and the competition can be tough. Last year’s winning team of Patty Hollenbeck, Dan Minteer and Stan Kinsey finished a phenomenal 15 under par, the lowest score of any group in the tournament – women, men or mixed.

“We had a heck of a day,” Hollenbeck said.

The annual golf tournament, one of Lawyers Club’s largest fundraisers, raises money to support Lawyers Club programs, the Fund for Justice, which makes charitable gifts to non-profit organizations that address social issues affecting women and children, and the Women’s Resource Fair, which provides a variety of services for victims of domestic violence, those with substance abuse issues, and homeless or indigent women.

Lawyers Club members and friends can help support these programs by registering to play in the tournament, signing up as a sponsor, or donating prizes for the tournament’s contests, golfer gift bags or raffle.

Tickets are $135 per person or $540 per foursome.

Sponsors can choose among several sponsorship levels with extensive advertising and marketing opportunities. All sponsors are recognized in the tournament program, on tournament signs, at the post-tournament dinner, and in Lawyers Club News. Some sponsorship levels include table displays. For more information about sponsorship opportunities, contact Golf Tournament Committee co-chairs Gina Haggerty Lindell at glindell@gordonrees.com, or Paulette DePaulo at pdepaulo@fosterwalsh.com.

To register for the tournament, visit www.lawyersclubsnadiego.com or use the enclosed insert.

Lawyers Club’s Community Outreach Committee seeks donations of time and money for its newest service project – developing a garden for Shakti Rising, a non-profit organization that works to transform the lives of women, girls and the larger community.

Shakti Rising, which provides programs and classes focusing on personal transformation, community wellness education, and leadership development, seeks to empower and transform women and girls who are in recovery from various types of addictions or traumas, encouraging the use of the transformation as a catalyst for positive change in their families and communities.

Lawyers Club will help Shakti Rising develop an expanded working garden at its program house. The garden will feature three sections – edible, herbal, and ritual/leadership – to provide food for the house, supplies for community wellness classes and workshops, and a community gathering place. The group also hopes the garden will provide students in its Transformational Recovery Apprenticeship Program with a project that generates income through educational and business ventures.

The Community Outreach Committee seeks volunteers to help with the hands-on work as well as donations of money and supplies. The garden project needs: redwood lumber for planter boxes; lattice or reed; large terra cotta pots; working compost, soil, and/or potting soil; plants and seeds, including edible varieties (fruit trees, vegetables) and herbs; and garden hose.

Members who have a green thumb or enjoyed volunteering for the Community Outreach Committee’s last project and would be interested in volunteering again should contact Megan Johnson at johnsoml@tjsl.edu.

Money donations can be made by sending checks payable to Shakti Rising to Megan Johnson at 4285 Asher St., #57, San Diego, CA 92110.
Speaker gives global perspective on reproductive rights at Planned Parenthood anniversary dinner

By Sarah Clarke

Nearly 1,000 people attended Planned Parenthood of San Diego & Riverside Counties’ 47th anniversary dinner April 22 at the San Diego Bayfront Hilton, celebrating the organization’s history of supporting women’s reproductive rights while antiabortion protesters gathered outside the hotel.

Lawyers Club past president Tracy Loughridge, who chairs Planned Parenthood’s board of directors and chairs Lawyers Club’s Reproductive Choice Committee, said the protesters outside and those who gather daily at Planned Parenthood’s health centers are not reflective of the public’s support of the work the organization does.

“We are not defined by the opposition,” she said.

Loughridge said recent surveys have shown that 90 percent of the community support comprehensive sex education in schools, 60 percent support the Roe v. Wade decision legalizing abortion, and 80 percent believe it is important for abortion to remain accessible.

Planned Parenthood president and CEO Darrah DiGiorgio Johnson emphasized that the community needs and appreciates Planned Parenthood for the women’s health services and education it provides.

“Planned Parenthood is always here, for all people,” Johnson said.

Investigative journalist and author Michelle Goldberg gave the keynote address, discussing population policy, reproductive health and women’s rights.


Goldberg provided powerful examples of reproductive rights struggles in other countries, where unsafe and illegal abortion is a reality for millions of women. In Nicaragua, for example, the government has banned all abortions, even to save a woman’s life, while in Ethiopia, one-third of all maternal deaths are due to botched abortions.

“These countries offer us a glimpse of a world without abortion,” Goldberg said.

But she stressed that there is hope. Although some young people today take reproductive rights for granted and lack the zealouslyness of generations who grew up before Roe v. Wade, “there are really fantastic people on our side!”

Goldberg urged the audience to remember that reproductive rights is a global issue, noting that supporting positive reproductive rights policies in the United States also lends support for such policies around the world.

Sarah Clarke is a second-year student at Thomas Jefferson School of Law and a member of Lawyers Club’s Reproductive Choice Committee.
In Hollywood, they say, “Never work with dogs or children.”

But that didn’t deter Joe Dundas, a volunteer with Southern California German Shepherd Rescue, who served as the guest speaker at Lawyers Club’s “Take Your Child to Work” luncheon April 22.

Introducing his dog, Otto, as “the ultimate show-and-tell device,” Dundas let the roomful of kids pet, hug and walk Otto around as he explained the role that animal rescue organizations play in finding forever homes for abandoned dogs and cats.

“We have a very antiquated shelter system,” Dundas said. “It’s modeled after the sanitation system – get dogs off the street and get rid of the problem, with no focus on what comes next. Rescues provide a buffer for shelters. We take animals from shelters and take them the last mile to make sure they find their forever homes.”

Dundas said six to eight million animals become homeless or are abandoned every year, and 50 to 60 percent never have a chance of finding a home. His own dog, Otto, was rescued from an animal shelter on his last day – one day later, the shelter would have euthanized the dog.

“It’s a bleak picture, but every one of us can help overcome it,” Dundas said. “If you are looking for a pet, adopt. There are six to eight million homeless dogs out there. Twenty five percent of them are purebred – that gives you two million purebreds to choose from. … If you have a pet already, make sure it’s microchipped. Get your pet spayed or neutered. Spread the word. If you have family or friends who are looking for a pet, ask them what their motives are and where they’re looking. They may not know about rescue groups and what an invaluable resource they are.”

The message got through to ninth-grader Yatzil Margolis, who joined mom Anita and brother Johar at the luncheon after spending the morning watching her mom in action in court.

“That was really cool,” Margolis said. “I didn’t know that many animals didn’t have homes. I’d like to do something about that – work to help rescues discourage people from buying pets from stores.”

Dundas urged his audience to take a “puppy pledge” to never buy a pet from a pet store, never buy a “mail order” pet from an ad or the Internet, adopt from a shelter or rescue group, consider adopting an adult pet, and consider fostering a pet.

“There’s simply no reason to ever buy a pet,” he said. “The only reason to ever buy a dog is if you’re the San Diego Police Department and you need to get specifically bred police dogs. If you just want a family dog, there’s no reason to buy.”

Dundas sang the praises of German Shepherds as family dogs and shared some fun facts about their friendly German Shepherd steals show at “Take Your Child to Work” luncheon

By Jodi Cleesattle
Plan ahead for September luncheon on weighing whether to take a break from the law

Lawyers Club’s Balance Committee will sponsor a luncheon program Sept. 16 focusing on the choices women face in maintaining a full- or part-time law practice or temporarily leaving and reentering the practice of law.


Fujie, a shareholder at Buchalter Nemer in Los Angeles, will share her thoughts on how and why women should stick with the practice of law. Mallow, managing director of the West Coast office of Shannon & Manch, LLP, a consulting and career management firm for lawyers and law firms, will provide advice on how women can temporarily leave their legal careers while positioning themselves for successful reentry into the practice of law.

The program will include optional, additional break-out sessions, which will be held before or after the luncheon. The break-out sessions will address the issues of balancing work with family and other interests and leaving and reentering the profession.

Attendees will receive 1.0 hour MCLE credit for the luncheon program and an additional .45 hours MCLE credit for the break-out sessions.
Lawyers Club welcomes new board members

By Holly Amaya

Lawyers Club will welcome four new board members at its June luncheon – Natalie Prescott, Johanna Schiavoni, Lana Sheshina and Rupa Singh.

The new board members were elected in May from a field of nine strong candidates, each of whom was very active in Lawyers Club committees and activities. The board members, who hail from diverse backgrounds both personally and professionally, will take office in July and serve three-year terms.

“Lana, Rupa, Johanna and Natalie will all be great additions to the board,” incoming Lawyers Club president Wendy Behan said. “I look forward to working with them this year.”

The board coordinates and oversees the activities of Lawyers Club, and directors serve as liaisons to each Lawyers Club committee.

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“Lana, Rupa, Johanna and Natalie will all be great additions to the board,” incoming Lawyers Club president Wendy Behan said. “I look forward to working with them this year.”

Prescott is a litigation associate at Latham & Watkins, where she specializes in appellate, insurance, product liability, and general commercial litigation. She previously served as a clerk to Judge Roger T. Benitez of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California.

“I want to continue the great tradition of making Lawyers Club an organization where people at different stages of their careers come together to further the advancement of women in our profession,” Prescott said.

Schiavoni, who is also a litigation associate at Latham & Watkins, practices in the area of complex litigation, with a specialty in state and federal appellate court litigation. She clerked for Judge M. Margaret McKeown of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and Judge Christina A. Snyder in the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California.

Sheshina is an associate at Schwartz Semerdjian Haile Ballard & Cauley, LLP. A graduate of California Western School of Law, she is a civil litigator who represents clients in business litigation, personal injury matters, wrongful death cases, and contract disputes.

Singh is a staff attorney and appellate specialist at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Formerly a partner at McKenna Long & Aldridge, Singh also has served as president of the Federal Bar Association and helped co-found the South Asian Bar Association in 2002.

Singh said Lawyers Club helped her to become more involved in the San Diego legal community.

“When I moved to San Diego from New York for a clerkship almost 11 years ago, I didn’t know anyone here,” Singh said. “Organizations like Lawyers Club, however, gave me such a warm welcome that I forgot to be homesick and began to call San Diego my home. It’s my honor now to be elected to the board, and to help support both new and experienced lawyers in this community.”

Holly Amaya is an associate at Green Bryant & French, LLP, and serves as the Lawyers Club liaison to Couture For A Cause.

Lawyers Club supports candidates in four judicial races

Lawyers Club’s board of directors voted May 5 to support judicial candidates in the June 8 election for four of the contested San Diego Superior Court seats.

Lawyers Club supports Judge Lantz Lewis, who is the incumbent in Seat 14; Judge Robert Longstreth, who is the incumbent in Seat 21; Judge Joel Wohlfeil, who is the incumbent in Seat 34; and attorney Stephen Clark, who is seeking the open Seat 20.

Lewis has served on the San Diego Superior Court since 1998 and served as a judge on the Municipal Court in El Cajon from 1990 to 1998. He is a former state and federal prosecutor. Before his career in law, Lewis worked as a program analyst for the City Manager of San Diego reviewing police and fire programs and was appointed Criminal Justice Planning Coordinator for the County of San Diego’s Law and Justice Agency.

Longstreth was appointed to the bench in 2008 and previously served as a judge pro tem with the San Diego Superior Court and Municipal Court from 1992 to 2008. Prior to his appointment to the bench, he was a partner with Gray Cary, now known as DLA Piper, and previously worked as a state and federal prosecutor and as a trial attorney with the U.S. Department of Justice.

Wohlfeil was appointed to the bench in 2007, after nearly 25 years in private practice including 16 years as a principal at Boudreau, Albert & Wohlfeil and its predecessors. As a trial lawyer, he received five outstanding trial lawyer awards from the Consumer Attorneys of San Diego. He is a frequent participant in Kids Turn, Parents Turn and Kids Court programs.

Clark is a retired assistant U.S. attorney, who spent some 30 years handling federal prosecutions and civil litigation, including serving in supervisory positions such as first assistant U.S. attorney in San Diego and serving as chief of the Major Frauds Section. He served as a member of the San Diego County Grand Jury from 2008 to 2009, and he currently works as a volunteer literacy tutor for READ/San Diego.

Lawyers Club offers a type of endorsement to judicial candidates who seek the organization’s support. Any judicial candidate may seek the support, and Lawyers Club’s Judicial Elections Endorsement Committee evaluates each candidate who seeks endorsement and makes recommendations to the board. The committee does not evaluate or issue statements regarding candidates who do not seek Lawyers Club’s endorsement.

“We use the word ‘support,’ rather than ‘endorse,’ because we provide an imprimatur to any candidate in a race who requests our support and who meets our criteria, meaning that we may give our support to one, multiple, or no candidates in any given race,” Judicial Elections Endorsement Committee chair Danielle Hickman said.
New Member Profile:
Johanna Hartwig
By Genevieve A. Suzuki

Employment: Johanna Hartwig is employed by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit as a law clerk to Judge M. Margaret McKeown, one of the three Ninth Circuit judges who have chambers in San Diego.

Education: She earned a B.A. in History from Yale University in 1994. In 2005, Hartwig graduated magna cum laude with her J.D. from University of Michigan, where she also received her MPP from the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy.

Hometown: Hartwig was born and raised in Livermore, Calif. After high school, she spent 15 years on the East Coast and in the Midwest before returning to the Bay Area following law school.

Years lived in San Diego: She moved to San Diego in August 2008 to clerk for Judge M. Margaret McKeown and will remain her clerk until fall. “I split my time between working on Ninth Circuit appeals and supporting the judge in her role as chair of the Judicial Conference Committee on Codes of Conduct, which is the ethics committee for the entire federal judiciary,” Hartwig said.

Why she belongs to Lawyers Club: “I believe in Lawyers Club’s mission of expanding opportunities for women in the law, and was excited about connecting to the local women lawyer community when I moved down here,” Hartwig said. “After attending a number of events and enjoying them, I decided to become a member.”

The San Diego lawyer she most admires: “I admire and respect Judge McKeown, for reasons that could fill the newsletter, but I’ll just name a few,” Hartwig said. “Through her former practice as an advocate and her current work as a judge, she demonstrates the highest level of legal thinking and a clear vision about the purposes of our legal system and how to further them. That inspires me. On top of that, Judge McKeown is an extraordinary boss, the kind everyone should want to have or to be. She sets high expectations, and then is very generous with her support in helping you meet those expectations and develop as a lawyer.

“Then, in addition to all of that, the contributions she has made to advancing opportunities, for women and men, inside and outside of the law, make my jaw drop. And I couldn’t conclude without pointing out that she is also very fun-loving, and a great model for her clerks of how to lead a full, enjoyable life.”

Non-law interests: “When I moved down to San Diego, I was determined to live as close to the water as possible, and I succeeded in living on the block of the beach,” Hartwig said. “So I like to spend time walking along the cliffs and enjoying my spot right on the edge of the continent.”

If you know a new member who should be profiled, please contact Genevieve Suzuki at suzuki gen@gmail.com.

Genevieve A. Suzuki is a member of Lawyers Club’s Newsletter Editorial Board.

Welcome to New Lawyers Club Members

The following individuals have joined the ranks of Lawyers Club of San Diego. Lawyers Club welcomes all of its new members and encourages them to get involved at social and networking events and with the many Lawyers Club committees, projects and programs.

Sarah Clarke
Arthur Obolsky
Terrell Quealy
Robert Shields

New Corporate Member
Amie Ekstrom/CMR Risk & Insurance Services, Inc.
This month Balance Brainstorm asked Lawyers Club members to share their secret sounding boards – how they vent about the many frustrations that arise throughout their busy lives, whether from work, family, friends or the simple lack of time. Members report that they rely on everything from journals to Lawyers Club friends to blow off steam.

Being married to a lawyer has its perks

“My husband and I can’t imagine being married to a non-lawyer! He understands anything I want to talk about!”

Candace M. Carroll, Of Counsel
Sullivan Hill Lewin Rez & Engel

Dear Diary …

“My journal has been my sounding board for years. I can write about anything and anyone. It’s not judgmental, it won’t be used against me later, and I won’t regret what I wrote so I can be perfectly honest when upset or angry. It also listens well and offers no advice, which I find perfect when I just need to vent.”

Rachel Cano, Deputy District Attorney
Office of the San Diego County District Attorney

Grateful for Lawyers Club comrades

“When I started law practice in the mid ’70s, some of the women I met at Lawyers Club events generously mentored me and ultimately became my close friends. They are my sounding board. They know and understand what I’ve experienced, they’ve lived through much of what I’ve lived through, and for over 30 years they have demonstrated loyalty and trustworthiness. My lifelong commitment to Lawyers Club is in part gratitude for these wonderful friends and in part a hope that other women attorneys develop similar supportive sounding boards.”

Judy Copeland, Partner
Copeland and Tierman

Family, friends, prayer

“My sounding board is comprised of many different sources, depending on the issue. If it’s a personal matter that is troubling me, I will often discuss it with a family member or a close friend. If it’s a career issue, I often seek out someone in our legal community who I admire for his/her integrity and accomplishments. And if it’s an issue that is very difficult to make, with no apparent right answer, I will go to church when no one is there, and pray about it. For me, the greatest benefit about having a ‘sounding board’ is that it allows one some time to reflect on the situation and make a rational decision.”

Alara T. Chilton
Law Offices of Alara T. Chilton

Lea Fields-Bernard is a trial attorney and owner of Trial Dogs, a trial training, consulting and support firm. She may be reached at SDesq94@gmail.com.

Many lawyers who are new mothers find themselves – sometimes unexpectedly – wanting or needing to spend more time at home rather than churning the hours at the office. These women, who have worked hard to achieve success in their practice, may find themselves wondering whether they should permanently leave the practice of law. This month, Balance Brainstorm seeks your advice for moms facing this dilemma.

Balance Brainstorm wants to know:

What suggestions do you have for moms who are considering quitting the legal field? What ideas do you have that would help convince them to stay?

Responses will be included in the September issue of Lawyers Club News. Please send your response, along with your full name, job title and employer name, to Lea Fields-Bernard at sdesq94@gmail.com. Answers may be edited for space. Members are also invited to submit questions relating to balance issues that they would like answered by other Lawyers Club members.
Leadership Opportunities

Positions open on county commissions serving women, children and families, city commission addressing equal opportunity contracting

By Samantha M. Everett

The Lawyers Club Leadership Development Committee encourages Lawyers Club members to apply for positions on the many city, county and non-profit boards and commissions serving San Diego County. The committee advises members to contact the individuals listed to confirm any openings prior to applying, as some openings may have been filled. If you have information about committee openings or leadership positions that may be of interest to Lawyers Club members, please contact Samantha Everett at severett@stokesroberts.com.

City Boards

The City of San Diego's Citizens’ Equal Opportunity Commission has open seats. The commission provides administrative and organizational support and oversight to the city’s Equal Opportunity Contracting department. Equal Opportunity Contracting enforces public contracting regulations; administers federal, state, and city equal opportunity laws; conducts broad outreach efforts to increase the diversity of the contracting community; provides mentorships and technical assistance to small and emerging contractors; and develops partnerships with the contracting community, emerging businesses and its client departments. Members of the Citizens’ Equal Opportunity Commission are appointed by the mayor and confirmed by the city council to two-year terms. For more information, call the City Clerk at (619) 533-4000 or visit www.sandiego.gov/eoc/about/commission.shtml.

San Diego’s Senior Affairs Advisory Board has several open positions. This board advises the mayor and city council on policy and issues relating to transportation, security at home, improved inter-generational interaction, meal delivery, housing, improved city-county cooperation, and other issues. The board advises the mayor and city council on relevant issues and formation of laws, policies or procedures that may affect seniors. Board members, who are appointed by the mayor and confirmed by the city council, must be professionals or experts in the field of senior services delivery or must be over age 60 to serve on the board’s at-large seats. Members serve two-year terms. For more information, call the City Clerk at (619) 533-4000.

The city’s Relocation Appeals Board has several open seats. The board hears all complaints relating to relocation brought by persons displaced by city action, and oversees actions of the city’s Redevelopment Agency that relate to relocation. Members are appointed by the mayor and confirmed by city council to two-year terms. Members must be electors of the City of San Diego and must be specially qualified to act as board members by reason of training and experience in real estate, human relations, housing, urban development, redevelopment, or other relevant business or profession. For more information, contact the City Clerk at (619) 533-4000.

County Boards

The San Diego Commission on the Status of Women has open seats for electors of County Districts One, Four, and Five. The commission’s mission is to identify needs and problems of women in the county who are affected by public policy decisions and to eliminate the practice of discrimination and prejudice on the basis of sex within the county. The commission, which cooperates with federal, state, county, city and other public agencies, studies and evaluates County Charter provisions, ordinances, policies, proposed policies, and their implementation to determine if there are instances of discrimination against any person because of sex. The commission advises the San Diego County Board of Supervisors on areas of concern to women’s lives and needs in San Diego County, including domestic violence, sexual harassment, legislative issues, elder care and fraud, welfare and social services, criminal justice, employment and business opportunities, and the Sexual Assault and Response Team program. Commission members are nominated by their district’s representative on the Board of Supervisors and confirmed by the Board of Supervisors. The commission meets monthly, and members serve a term concurrent with their nominating Supervisor. For more information, contact Darah Merto, Human Resources, at (619) 531-5108 or visit www.statusofwomen.org/new/index.html.

The county’s Commission on Children, Youth and Families has a vacancy for an elector of District Three. Applicants must be either a recipient of services for children and families; a representative of a nonprofit, community, or voluntary agency; or an expert on children and family issues. The commission serves as an information resource to the Board of Supervisors on issues related to children, youth and families; promotes coordinated and collaborative efforts of public and private sector organizations engaged in providing services to children; facilitates a regional and integrated service delivery approach to the provision of children, youth and family services; assists appropriate county departments in development of plans for services to children, youth and families; and promotes preventative services and programs for children, youth and families. Members are appointed by the Board of Supervisors and serve terms concurrent with their nominating Supervisors. For more information, contact Vicki Devine, Health & Human Services, at (619) 338-2057.

The county has an ongoing need for Hearing Officers. Hearing officers conduct hearings into disputes involving county agencies and the application of the County Code. As part of the process, hearing officers are empowered to issue subpoenas, receive evidence, administer oaths, and rule on the admissibility of evidence and upon questions of law. The hearing officer renders a written decision following each hearing, including any findings or conclusions required for the decision. To qualify, an applicant must be an attorney at law admitted to practice before the courts of the State of California for at least five years prior to the appointment. Members are appointed by the Board of Supervisors to the pool of hearing officers. Officers serve terms concurrent with their nominating Supervisors. For more information, contact Marvice Mazyck, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, at (619) 531-4870.

Samantha M. Everett is an associate practicing commercial and employment litigation with the firm of Stokes Roberts & Wagner and is a member of the Lawyers Club Leadership Development Committee.
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June 2010

**Wednesday, June 9**

*San Diego County Bar Association Judicial Reception.* 5:30-8 p.m. SDCBA Bar Center, 1333 Seventh Ave., downtown. Free. RSVP online at www.sdcba.org.

**Thursday, June 10**

*Summer Wine & Cheese Reception.* Honoring Lawyers Club mentors and mentees. 5:30-7:30 p.m. Mintz Levin Cohn Ferris Glovsky & Popeo, 3580 Carmel Mountain Road, Suite 300, Carmel Valley. FREE. RSVP to (619) 595-0650 or online at www.lawyersclubsandiego.com.

**Saturday, June 12**

*MAMAS at PlayWerx.* Mother Attorneys Mentoring Association of San Diego is sponsoring a play date/moms’ mixer. 3-5 p.m. PlayWerx, 6060 Avenida Encinas, Carlsbad. $5 for adults, $10 for kids 4 and up, $5 for kids 3 and under. RSVP to http://bit.ly/aMNBQs.

**Thursday, June 17**

*Lawyers Club Monthly Luncheon at the Bristol.* Speakers are Tracy Loughridge, board chair of Planned Parenthood of San Diego and Riverside Counties, and Darragh Johnson, CEO of Planned Parenthood. Luncheon and program, 12-1:15 p.m. Bristol Hotel, 1055 First Ave. Members, $25. Non-members, $30. Students, $20. At the door if space available, $30. 1.0 hour MCLE credit. Members can bring a guest for free to this luncheon!

**Monday, June 21**

*San Diego County Bar Association/Foothills Bar Association East County Attorney Mixer.* 5-7 p.m. Hooley’s Irish Pub & Grill, 5500 Grossmont Center Drive, #277, La Mesa. Hosted beer, wine and appetizers. RSVP online at www.sdcba.org.

**Wednesday, June 23**

*San Diego La Raza Lawyers Association Judiciary Mixer.* Hosted by Best Best & Krieger LLP, 655 West Broadway, 15th Floor, downtown. Open to SDLRA members and all members of the judiciary. RSVP to larazalawyers@gmail.com. For more information, visit www.larazalawyerssd.com.

**Thursday, June 24**

*“Stilettos & Stogies” High Fashion Fundraiser.* Sponsored by Dress for Success San Diego. 5-9 p.m. 97 Horton, 4th and Broadway, Gaslamp District. Tickets $20 per person, $50 for VIP admission (includes gift bag). For information and tickets, visit www.dressforsuccess.org/sandiego or call (619) 281-3773.

**Monday, June 28**

*“Great Presidents and the Supreme Court.”* Speaker is John Yoo, former deputy assistant U.S. attorney general in the Office of Legal Counsel. Sponsored by the Association of Business Trial Lawyers. 5:30 p.m. cocktails, 6 p.m. dinner and program. Westin San Diego, 400 West Broadway, downtown. Tickets are $65 for ABTL members, $85 for non-members, $50 for public sector attorneys, $50 for ABTL member judges, $60 for non-member judges. 1.0 hour MCLE credit. For information, visit http://www.abtl.org/sandiego.

July 2010

**Friday, July 9**

*Lawyers Club “Summer Swing Fling” Golf Tournament.* 1:30 p.m. shotgun start. Tournament includes box lunch and buffet dinner. Rancho Bernardo Inn, 17560 Bernardo Oaks Drive, San Diego. Tickets are $135 per person or $540 per foursome.

**Thursday, July 15**


**Saturday, July 17**

*Lawyers Club Board and Committee Chair Retreat.* Details to be announced.

September 2010

**Thursday, September 16**

*Lawyers Club Monthly Luncheon at the Bristol.* “Should I Stay or Should I Go? – Issues Facing Women Weighing Whether to Stay in Practice and Balance, or Temporarily Leave the Practice of Law.” Speakers are Holly Fujie and Amy Benerson Mallow. Luncheon and program, 12-1:15 p.m. Doors open 11:45 a.m. Bristol Hotel, 1055 First Ave. Members, $25. Non-members, $30. Students, $20. At the door if space available, $30. 1.0 hour MCLE credit. Program will include optional, additional break-out sessions before or after the luncheon for an additional .45 hours MCLE credit.

**San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program Justice for All Dinner.* 5:30-9 p.m. Westin Gaslamp Quarter, 910 Broadway Circle. Tickets are $150 per person. For information, contact Cheryl Martinez at (619) 235-5656 x110 or cmartinez@sdvlp.org.

**Thursday, September 30**

*San Diego County Bar Association Law Student Welcome Reception and Section & Committee Fair.* 5-8 p.m. SDCBA Bar Center, 1333 Seventh Ave., downtown. RSVP online at www.sdcba.org.

October 2010

**Thursday, October 14**

*Pipeline to Leadership: Securing Spots on Boards and Commissions.* Sponsored by Lawyers Club Leadership Development Committee. 6-8 p.m., including networking reception following program. DLA Piper LLP, 401 B St., Suite 1700, downtown. 1.5 hours MCLE credit.
Join us for our 18th Annual Lawyers Club of San Diego Golf Tournament!

Lawyers Club members, friends and associates come together for a day of golf and good times to support the Lawyers Club and our Fund for Justice. The Fund for Justice benefits programs such as the Women’s Resource Fair (providing services for shelter residents, homeless and indigent families) and other activities advancing the well-being of women in our community.

Your participation will enable Lawyers Club to fund these important activities.

- **When & Where:** Friday, July 9, 2010, 1:30 p.m. shotgun start at Rancho Bernardo Inn, located at 17550 Bernardo Oak Drive, San Diego, CA 92128. Players enjoy green fees, cart, lunch, scramble tourney with contests, plus post-event dinner and awards party.

- **Entry Fees:** Player prices: $135 by 7/2/10 - $150 after (Foursome prices: $540 by 7/2/10 - $600 after)

- **Sponsorship Levels:** Sponsors will be saluted on tournament signage, in tournament program, awards party announcements, and in *Lawyers Club News* sent to over 1,100 individuals. Sponsors may provide advertising material or items for golfer gift bags or prizes for tournament contests and raffle.
  - **The Big Splash - $1250** (Includes sponsorship of a hole on the course or an on-course contest. Includes display at the tee to greet the golfers, ad in tournament program, and a foursome of players in the event.)
  - **Golden California - $850** (Includes hole or contest sponsorship and tee display, ad in tournament program and a twosome of players in the event.)
  - **Silver Dollar - $500** (Includes hole or contest sponsorship, tee display and in tournament program.)
  - **Summer Libations, Putting Contest, Hole in One or Summer Swing Fling Drink Cart Sponsor - $500+**
  - **Bronze Beach - $250** (Includes choice of one entry fee or ad in tournament program.)

Prize donations for raffles and contests would be appreciated.

Please complete and fax or mail this form as soon as possible for maximum publicity.

Players may also register on our website, www.lawyersclubsandiego.com.
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