

AdvanceSheet

A newsletter published by Oregon Women Lawyers

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THE HONORABLE BETTY ROBERTS WINS THE SUE JUBA AWARD

The Portland Area Women's Political Caucus recently awarded the 1990 Sue Juba Award to The Honorable Betty Roberts, the first woman to serve on the Oregon Supreme Court and a charter member of Oregon Women Lawyers. The award honors members of the Caucus who, like the late Sue Juba, have worked to elect feminist candidates to public office and through volunteer community efforts have helped further opportunities and equal rights for all Oregonians.

At the awards ceremony, five local community leaders spoke of Judge Roberts' varied contribution to the state of Oregon. Portland City Commissioner Gretchen Kafoury described Judge Roberts' career as an elected official and her impact on other members of the Oregon Legislature and on elected officials in Multnomah County. Oregon State University Professor Bill McClenaghan, who had hired Judge Roberts as an adjunct professor of political science, commented on the popularity of her courses and their impact on students of the Oregon political scene. Joe Johnson, president of Security Pacific Bank of Oregon, praised Judge Roberts for her contribution as a bank board member. Dian O'Dell, Judge Roberts' oldest child and manager of technical support at Kaiser Permanente, gave a series of moving remarks about Judge Roberts' contributions as "mom." Katherine O'Neil, founding member of Oregon Women Lawyers, described Judge Roberts' career as a lawyer.

O'Neil's remarks about Judge Roberts (some



"When Oregon Women Lawyers was being formed, I thought it was important to have women who've practiced law for some time explain what it was like when we didn't have the support of a group."

of which are presented here) are an important reminder of the judge's role in making Oregon Women Lawyers the vital organization it is today:

Betty Roberts is a patron saint of 2,000 women lawyers in Oregon. We look to her and to her life as a model of success for the woman in the legal profession. In her career as a lawyer, as a legislator—and later as an appellate judge—she embodied, she invented and lived the career of a successful woman attorney. There were no role models for Betty. And, pertinent to this evening's award, she has shared her success and empowered other women attorneys to follow her.

Betty led the way as a judge. She was the first woman to serve on the appellate courts of the state of Oregon. Governor Straub, a Democrat, appointed Betty to the Oregon Court of Appeals in 1977. Governor Atiyeh, a Republican,

A RESOUNDING SUCCESS. Our April 6 Spring Dinner honoring pioneer women lawyers was sold out two weeks before the event and many people had to be turned away. More on pioneer women in the next issue of the *AdvanceSheet*.

Continue on page 3

President's Message

The success of Oregon Women Lawyers depends on the time and energy given by its directors and members. To all of you who participate in our committees and programs, a big vote of thanks! I'm happy to say there are too many active members to acknowledge individually. However, I would like to offer special thanks to a few who have devoted extra time and energy these past few months.

The incredible work of the Directory Committee will make it possible for Oregon Women Lawyers to publish a directory of our members and present it to all women lawyers and judges in the state. For all the hours you have given—and continue to give—our thanks to you.



Al-Sofi, Susan Cohen, Ning Fu, Venita Lewis, Janna Lovejoy, Ning Fu, Katherine O'Neil, Glen Pullen, Jane Reeder, Diane Rynerson, and Janice Schurman.

The Spring Dinner Committee did a terrific job preparing our elegant April 6 tribute to Oregon's pioneer women attorneys. Thanks to committee members Diana Craine, Kim Crnich, Norma Freitas, Susan Evans Grabe, Paula Hammond, Lee Knottnerus, Kathryn Olney, Katherine O'Neil, Agnes Petersen, and Nancy Walseth. Extra thanks to Graff and O'Neil for a lovely souvenir program that will continue to remind us of this historic event.

Kudos to Nell Bonaparte, chair of our excellent panel presentation at the Seattle meeting of the National Conference of Women's Bar Associations in February, and to panel members Ruth Hooper, Pamela Stebbes Knowles, Jeffrey L. Rogers, The Honorable Ellen Rosenblum, and Vicki Hopman Yates.

Thank you also to Lauren Holland, Andrea Redding, and Elizabeth Stockdale, who have made the first year of our Mentor Program a terrific success. A special thanks to Kathryn Ricciardelli for taking the idea and, through long hours and dedication, making it work!

Another important contribution was made by Sarah Rosenberg, who devoted the extra time needed to get our Contract Lawyer Referral/Job Resources Program off the ground. And yet another was made by Turid Owren, who practices in the area of intellectual property, for obtaining a trademark for our logo.

A special thank you to Debra Kronenberg for all the hours she put into keeping and analyzing our financial records. As Oregon Women Lawyers has grown, so has the complexity of our finances. Thanks, Debra, for keeping us in order!

And finally, thank you to our new members. Since the beginning of January, over 100 of you have joined! We look forward to the ideas and commitment you will bring to further strengthen our organization.

Agnes Sowle
Agnes Sowle

Oregon Women Lawyers Members Serve on the Campaign for Equal Justice

On April 1, Oregon's legal services programs launched a statewide annual fund-raising campaign among the bar to support legal services for the state's poorest citizens. Through "The Campaign for Equal Justice," the programs will seek to raise \$1.5 million over the first three years of the campaign, half from the private bar and half from matching funds through foundation and corporate sources.

Serving on the statewide advisory committee that has planned the campaign are Oregon Women Lawyers members Katherine O'Neil, Ruth Spetter, and the Honorable Betty Roberts. Neil Goldschmidt and Ernest Bonyhadi are campaign co-chairs.

Successful fund raising will enable programs to sustain current levels of services and to expand services in targeted areas where basic survival needs are not being met. Survival needs include food, shelter, subsistence benefits, medical care, and relief from domestic violence. More than two-thirds of those served are poor women, most of whom have children.

Oregon's legal services programs are the primary source of civil legal representation for 500,000 Oregonians who live in poverty—a group that accounts for 20 percent of the state's population. Legal services programs are staffed by 74 attorneys statewide, less than 1 percent of the total bar.

Last year the programs served 31,000, but two out of three who qualified for help were turned away because no lawyer was available through legal services or a pro bono referral program. Debra Kronenberg, who works for Legal Services in Hillsboro, says the tough part is not the clients you serve but those you have to turn down.

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BETTY ROBERTS

Continued from page 1

appointed her to the Supreme Court in 1982. As a seasoned and highly effective campaigner, Senator Betty Roberts would have been easily elected to either position.

Now Betty has shared what she has learned as a judge. In 1978, she helped Kim Frankel put her materials together for the Voters' Pamphlet. Since then, with very limited exceptions, Betty has motivated, counseled, and encouraged every woman judge elected or appointed to the courts of Oregon.

Betty has led the way for Oregon's 2,000 women lawyers, many of whom



Friends and colleagues, Betty Roberts and the Honorable Mercedes Deiz, at an Oregon Women Lawyers program

"I think it's important to have women in all political offices, including the judiciary—to ensure fairness among all minorities and women litigants and lawyers and to bring a woman's point of view and lifetime experience to decision making."

are active members of Oregon Women Lawyers. It is the state's most focused, most effective group of attorneys.

Betty was a founding director, present for hours and hours of initial meetings. She was a speaker at the state bar meetings and always present with encouragement, with strategy for the next step.

Betty has led the way as a lawyer. She continues to lead the way as a practicing attorney.

Betty continues as an active member of the State Judicial Conference and actively sets the moral agenda for that body. I know that her presence there is of great importance—and comfort—to the new, young women judges.

Betty Roberts went before. She led the way. She has taken our hands along the way. Practice in Oregon is different for each of us, whether we realize or appreciate it, because of Betty. She richly deserves this recognition.



Janice Wilson Appointed to the Multnomah County District Court

As her first judicial appointment, Governor Barbara Roberts recently named Janice R. Wilson to the District Court for Multnomah County. She will fill the seat that had been held by Robert Kirkman.

Judge Wilson, a member of Oregon Women Lawyers, comes to the bench from the firm of Ater Wynne Hewitt Dodson & Skerritt. Prior to joining that firm she was a partner in Lindsay, Hart, Neil & Weigler.

She has also been active in professional and community affairs, focusing on rehabilitation services for women offenders, civil rights issues, volunteer legal services, and a variety of bar activities.

Said Judge Wilson of her new position, "I am honored by Governor Roberts' appointment and the support I have received from the bar."

"While we still have a long way to go until the bench (or the bar) reflects the demographics of our community, many of your readers will be pleased to know that the packet of materials for robe selection includes a special design for women. The symbolism is important in breaking down the barriers of stereotypes. I hope the day will come when half the designs in the packet are for women."

FINDING OUT ABOUT FEMINIST JURISPRUDENCE

As this newsletter rolls off the press, several of our members will be helping to present a program on Feminist Jurisprudence at the Northwestern School of Law of Lewis and Clark College. The April 19 event includes presentations by nationally known theorists Katherine Bartlett and Judith Resnik, as well as experts in Oregon. Oregon Women Lawyers members who are participating include The Honorable Susan P. Graber, Kristine Olson Rogers, Katherine O'Neil, Arthur LaFrance, Pamela Jacklin, Paula Abrams, Katherine Tennyson, and Susan Mandiberg.

From its beginnings in the late 1960s and early 1970s, feminist legal theory has become an important and fundamentally distinct approach to the study and analysis of law and legal institutions. During the last decade, there has been much new thinking about the role of women in law and the impact of traditional legal theory on the lives of both men and women, but much of that thinking has been confined to the legal academy.

The purpose of the Feminist Jurisprudence CLE is to share this theory and show how it can be applied to very practical legal problems. This is the first such program in the country.



LEGISLATION FOR WOMEN TO WATCH IN '91

The following information was provided by Kate Brown, lobbyist for the Women's Rights Coalition, which works to achieve economic, political, and social equality and reproductive freedom for all Oregon women. The Coalition is comprised of over 70 organizations, as well as hundreds of individual members.

GENDER-NEUTRAL INSURANCE RATES & BENEFITS

In most areas of public life, federal and state laws prohibit discrimination. However, the insurance industry is an exception. Despite the fact that most insurance coverage in Oregon is gender neutral, the industry opposes legislation that would guarantee gender neutrality, arguing that: (1) gender is a valid characteristic to use in categorizing people according to risk and (2) women benefit economically from rates that are tied to gender.

For several sessions, the Women's Rights Coalition has introduced legislation prohibiting the use of gender and marital status in setting insurance rates and benefits, pointing to inconsistencies in the way the industry applies gender rating.

The group acknowledges that young women (under 25 or 30) benefit from lower rates than their male counterparts, who have twice as many accidents and drive twice as many miles. But, the Coalition points out, the industry keeps quiet about the fact that adult men also have twice the accidents and drive twice as much as adult women. According to the Coalition, women who pay the same rates as men who pose twice the risk, are—in effect—subsidizing men's auto insurance rates.

In the current session, two bills—SB 979 and SB 1143—would end gender discrimination in insurance. The Coalition urges women to write to their senators and representatives and ask them to support these bills.

DRUG TESTING & TREATMENT FOR PREGNANT WOMEN

One of the most controversial bills to appear this session is HB 2388, which would require drug testing of all pregnant women. Although the legislation was requested by the Governor's Task Force on Pregnancy and Substance Abuse solely to identify women who need substance abuse treatment, its mandatory nature has stirred opposition. Therefore, a working committee consisting of state representatives Kevin Mannix, Judith Bauman, and Del Parks, and several community members will explore other methods of identifying pregnant women who need substance-abuse treatment.

Today, treatment facilities for women—particularly pregnant women—are so scarce that even those who voluntarily choose treatment must wait months to be served. HB 2388 also addresses this problem by providing programs for substance abusers.

The Governor's Task Force has worked diligently to address the unique needs of women substance abusers. To begin

with, as Judge Ann Aiken notes, 90 percent of pregnant substance abusers have been physically or sexually abused. In addition, pregnant women who need treatment often require both child care and concurrent treatment for their family members.

EXPANSION OF THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS FOR CHILD VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ABUSE

In the past, several bills have been passed expanding the statute of limitations for child sex-abuse victims. One current bill, HB 2668, would expand the statute of limitations on tort action brought by sex-abuse victims to three years beyond the date of discovery or the date when the causal connection between the abuse and injury is established. This bill would enable victims who have suffered amnesia as a result of sexual abuse (a common occurrence) to sue the perpetrators when they regain memory of the incident.

HB 2668 was unanimously endorsed by the Family Justice Subcommittee of the House Judiciary Committee and is expected to pass both houses of the legislature.

DETERRING BLOCKADES AT MEDICAL FACILITIES

An answer to the continuing problem of blockades outside medical facilities may be HB 3480. The bill, which is modeled after a Maryland statute, makes it a crime to impede access to such a facility and carries a one-year maximum prison sentence and a potential fine of \$2,500.

In the past, the only deterrent was the civil penalty of trespass, which police often failed to enforce because no "crime" was involved. HB 3480 would change all that.

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OTHER BILLS SUPPORTED BY THE WOMEN'S RIGHTS COALITION

■ **Child-Care Programs in Schools.** SB 113 and 114 authorize schools to establish child-care programs for low-income families.

■ **Child Support.** SB 220 establishes maximum amounts of unemployment benefits that can be garnished to cover delinquent child support payments. SB 221 revises provisions for automatic withholding of wages for child support. SB 223 provides for enforcement of out-of-state child-support orders. SB 507 requires annual disclosure of financial information for those who are obligated to provide support.

HB 2083 revises the circumstances under which unemployment compensation is subject to child-support enforcement. HB 2910 removes the authority to reduce child support by the amount it costs to provide health-care coverage.

■ **Child Abuse.** HB 2882 requires community child-abuse assessment centers.

■ **Sexual-Abuse Victims.** HB 2396 establishes insurance coverage for sexual-abuse victims. HB 2411 extends the statute of limitations for certain sexual offenses involving children. HB 2544 makes rape a gender-neutral crime.

■ **Domestic Abuse.** HB 2993 requires peace officers to file reports on domestic disturbances. HB 2994 modifies the circumstances under which peace officers may arrest parties in domestic disturbances.

■ **Restraining Orders.** HB 2662 allows out-of-state restraining orders to be registered in Oregon.

■ **Maternal Care.** SB 274 establishes a statewide maternal-care program.

■ **Child-Development and Teen Parent Programs.** HB 2002 provides business tax credits for child-development or teen parent programs. HB 2003 provides grant programs for school districts for such programs.

■ **Health Insurance.** HB 2557 provides health insurance options to those who have none.

OWLS IN THE LEGISLATURE

Several members of Oregon Women Lawyers are familiar faces at the State Capitol, involved in the legislative process in various capacities—as senator, representative, legislative assistant, and lobbyist. Among them—

- **Senator Joyce Cohen** is beginning her third term in the Senate, after having served two terms in the House. She is chair of the Judiciary Committee; vice chair of the Health and Bio-Ethics and Agriculture and Natural Resources committees; and a member of the Business, Housing and Finance and Rules committees.

- **Representative Judy Bauman** has represented the 13th District, Multnomah County, since 1986 and is currently serving on the Judiciary and Housing and Urban Development committees. In 1989 she was chair of the latter committee.

- **Representative Beverly Stein** has twice been elected to the House, representing District 14, Multnomah County. She sits on the Business and Consumer Affairs Committee, House Special Committee on Children's Issues, and House Human Resources Committee, of which she is vice chair.

- **Representative Lisa Naito** was elected to represent District 15 in 1990 and holds seats on the Environment and Energy and Business and Consumer Affairs committees.

- **Marilyn Epstein** is legislative assistant to Rep. Judy Bauman, coming to that position with a background in political and community affairs.

- **Ingrid Swenson** is counsel to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

- **Diana Godwin** has been a lobbyist since 1981 and prior to that was legal counsel to the Senate Judiciary Committee in 1977 and 1979. Currently she represents clients of her firm, Heller, Ehrman, on environmental and energy issues.

- **Susan Evans Grabe** is legislative/issues assistant for the Oregon State Bar.

- **Kate Brown** is lobbyist for the Women's Rights Coalition.

- **Gail Vore** is chair of a political action committee being formed by interested Oregon Women Lawyers members.



Sen. Joyce Cohen



Rep. Judy Bauman



Rep. Beverly Stein



Rep. Lisa Naito

A WOMEN'S AGENDA FOR THE 102ND CONGRESS

Oregon Women Lawyers charter member Marcia Ohlemiller, has worked with Senator Bob Packwood of Oregon to compile a "Women's Agenda" for the 102nd Congress. Here are a few items from that list.

- **Civil Rights.** Senator Packwood, an original sponsor of the Equal Rights Amendment and a member of Oregon Women Lawyers, wants to restore protections against workplace discrimination that were weakened by U. S. Supreme Court decisions in 1989. The senator supports legislation recogniz-

ing that gender-based violence against women is a violation of civil rights.

- **Reproductive Rights.** The senator supports family planning for low-income women, pregnancy counseling that presents all options to the pregnant woman, and restoration of U. S. funding of international family planning.

- **Economic Equity.** The senator is co-sponsor of the Family and Medical Leave Act, the Economic Equity Act, and the Nontraditional Employment for Women Act.

ACTION ALERT!

Now's the time to volunteer for key positions on the Oregon State Bar board of governors, its committees, and the Professional Liability Fund board. We need strong candidates—especially women and minorities—for these seats.

Four Positions Open on the Board of Governors of the Oregon State Bar

There will be four openings on the Oregon State Bar Board of Governors this year: two in Multnomah County, one in Lane County, and one for Marion-Clackamas counties.

Two highly qualified women have already announced their candidacy for the Multnomah County openings. They are Janet Lee Hoffman of Hoffman and Matasar, specializing in criminal defense, and Paula J. Kurshner, partner in Gevurtz Menashe, specializing in domestic relations law. No one has announced his or her candidacy for the other two positions.

Now is the time to consider running for one of these positions and increasing the number of our members on the board. At the present time, seven members of Oregon Women Lawyers—Agnes Petersen, Sylvia Stevens, Gayle Troutwine, Marilyn Harbur, Bob Fraser, Julie Frantz, and Richard Solomon—

serve, and three others—Ruth Spetter, The Honorable Ellen Rosenblum, and M. Christie Helmer—are past board of governors members.

These individuals are available to provide information on board service and the process of running for election, including a campaign timetable.

Forms for candidates will be available this summer from the state bar office. Donna Hatfield can be contacted there for this year's timetable.

Two Openings on the Board of the Professional Liability Fund

The board of directors of the Professional Liability Fund is looking for two attorneys interested in serving on that body beginning in October 1991. The two will fill seats now held by Bruce Smith and Carl Brophy. In seeking nominees, the board considers such factors as gender, minority status, ability, experience, type of law practice, and geographic region.

Directors serve five-year terms and attend approximately 10 two-day board meetings each year. Between meetings,

directors are also required to spend considerable time reading board materials.

We urge interested members to indicate their candidacy by submitting a brief résumé by June 1, 1991 to Kirk R. Hall, CEO, Professional Liability Fund, P. O. Box 1600, Lake Oswego, Oregon 97035.

Send a copy of your letter to Oregon Women Lawyers members Doreen Margolin and Katherine O'Neil on the PLF board.

OSB Committees Need You

Oregon Women Lawyers has worked hard to increase the representation of women on OSB committees. If you are interested in an appointment, immediately telephone the chair and secretary of the committee you really want to serve on. (Appointments are rarely made to a committee listed as a "second choice.")

Also, write to Oregon Women Lawyers members on the board of governors (listed earlier in this article). All contacts should be made before the OSB board's May 3-4, 1991 meeting.

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Mentor Program Update

by Kathryn Ricciardelli

On February 22, the University of Oregon Law School mentor program held its first social, hosted by Lauren Holland, the local mentor facilitator. Students and lawyers met to exchange ideas and war stories about staying in, hanging on, and getting into a career in the field of law.

Willamette University College of Law held its second social. Over 30 participants provided an update about their meetings with their partners. The overall enthusiasm and energy made for a delightful time.



Trudy Allen, attorney and her protégé, Melissa Estes, second-year law student



Lawyers in front row: Connie Wold, Pam Schultz, Susan Isaacs, and Linda Love (left to right); Back row: Britt Marie Fasth, student



Diana Craine (left) with The Honorable Ellen Rosenblum

Around Oregon

■ **Central Oregon Women Lawyers** holds informal lunch meetings in Bend the second Friday of each month. For details, call Marge Garrow (382-3736).

■ **Corvallis Women Lawyers** meets with other women professionals each Thursday noon to discuss topics of mutual interest (currently career satisfaction and burnout). For details, call Gretchen Morris (754-1411).

■ In **Klamath Falls** an informal group of women lawyers meets occasionally for lunch. For more information, call Karla Knieps (884-7728).

■ **Lane County Women Lawyers Association** holds lunch meetings each month at area restaurants. Meetings alternate between networking functions and formal presentations by guest speakers on topics of interest to women attorneys. Lane County Women Lawyers also has an active mentoring program with the University of Oregon Law School's Women's Law Forum. For information about meetings, call Lauren Holland (343-1257).

■ At the **Lincoln County Recipe Club**, women attorneys and other Oregon Women Lawyers members in Lincoln County meet alternate Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. at the Newport Hotel to discuss "recipes" for social change and personal and professional growth. Members are also active in the Lincoln County Bar Association. For the next meeting date, call Bernice Barnett in the district attorney's office.

■ The **Mary Leonard Law Society in Salem** holds a lunch meeting the second Wednesday of each month (except July and August) at the Willamette University Center's Dining Room #1. The group also sponsors a mentoring program for Willamette University law students. For meeting places and other information, call Elizabeth Stockdale (378-4620).

■ **Queen's Bench in Portland** meets at 11:45 a.m. on the second Tuesday of the month at the Hilton International Club and holds business meetings on the fourth Tuesday at 11:45 a.m. in the Standard Plaza Cafeteria, Room B (1100 S. W. Sixth Avenue). Upcoming programs include, on May 14, a talk by Nancy

Hedin, director of the Portland City Club, on "The City Club of Portland: The Conscience of the City;" on June 11, an address by Jackie Jurkins, director of the Multnomah County Law Library; and on July 9, a retrospective, "Portland Portias Unite: Early Years of Queen's Bench," by retired attorney Helen Althaus.

■ **The Multnomah County Bar Association Committee on the Status of Women and Minorities** meets monthly. The committee is considering a survey on gender fairness in the courts, patterned after the recent and very successful survey in Washington state. For details, call Kathryn Augustson (226-7986) or Diane Polscer (228-6351).

■ **Queen's Bench Social Focus Group** meets at noon on the last Wednesday of the month at the Merchant Cafe in the Standard Insurance Center. This is an informal time for networking, sharing tips on career development, and keeping up to date on events in Portland's legal community. For information, call Diane Rynerson (235-8716).

■ **Women Lawyers of Southern Oregon** meets informally as a support group. For meeting information, call Colette Boehmer (779-7552) or Helen Althaus (488-1159).

■ **Oregon Women Lawyers Board** meets on the third Saturday of each month, 9 a.m. to noon, both in and outside Portland. The executive committee meets at noon on the first Wednesday of each month in the offices of Meyer & Wyse in Portland. Members are invited to attend both meetings.

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■ **SPECIAL SAVINGS FROM PAUL REVERE.** Last fall Oregon Women Lawyers endorsed the Paul Revere Insurance Group as a provider of Individual Non-Cancellable Disability Income Insurance, Business Overhead Expense, and Buy-Out protections. In addition to the 15 percent discount Paul Revere offers our members on these types of insurance, we are also eligible for *Member Communications Plus*, through Meridian One. Member Communications Plus is a program that offers substantial discounts on equipment, such as Fax machines and paper, laser printers, laptop computers, cellular phones, and copiers. In addition, *U.S. Sprint* offers a discount to members.

For information regarding the insurance program, please call Sam Augspurger at 249-8299. To learn about other membership benefits, call Diane Rynerson at 235-8716.

■ **IDAHO WOMEN LAWYERS ON THE MOVE.** Idaho Women Lawyers, Inc. is exploring the possibility of establishing a mentoring program for women entering the field of law. The group has also undertaken a statewide study of gender bias in the Idaho courts. It will provide survey results to the Idaho Supreme Court, which has established a committee to research the issue.

■ **THE WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD.** April 13-20, the Week of the Young Child, was intended to bring some interesting visitors to the workplace. To dramatize the importance of qualified childcare providers in the community, parents were asked to take life-sized cutouts of their children to work and display them during the week. The program was coordinated locally by the Portland chapter of the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

■ **CONFERENCE KEYNOTER.** Katherine O'Neil, immediate past president of Oregon Women Lawyers, was the keynote speaker for *A Women's Legal Issues Conference*, presented February 23, 1991 by The Women's Law

Forum of the University of Oregon. In presenting her topic, "Thriving in the 90s: Critical Issues for Women Lawyers," O'Neil used an excerpt from the video of our 1990 bar breakfast that included the presentations of Lisa Naito, Gale Patterson, Pat Sullivan, and Diana Craine.

■ **AN AWARD FOR THE HONORABLE KRISTENA A. LAMAR.** Recipient for the 1991 Annual Dispute Resolution Award to an individual went to Multnomah County Circuit Judge Kristena A. LaMar. The award was presented at the Seventh Annual Dispute Resolution Conference and Awards Ceremony, which was held at the Willamette University College of Law in Salem on March 8, 1991.

On Saturday, September 21 Judge LaMar will present a seminar for Oregon Women Lawyers on being effective in judicial arbitration. Time and place to be announced at a later date. For that seminar, Judge La Mar will be joined by another presenter, Nancy Arellano, adjunct professor at the Northwestern School of Law of Lewis and Clark College.

■ **JOINT CONFERENCE PLANNED.** Oregon Women Lawyers is exploring the possibility of holding a joint conference with Washington Women Lawyers in April 1992 at the Oregon Convention Center. Lee Knottnerus (Oregon Women Lawyers) and Sheryl Garland (Washington Women Lawyers) are co-chairs. Please stay tuned for further developments.

■ **A QUESTION OF IDENTITY.** As we compiled information about "pioneer" women lawyers for our April 6 Spring Dinner that honored them, we discovered that official Oregon State Bar records do not indicate the gender of members admitted prior to the early 1980s. That can lead to some embarrassing mistakes when the name in question is unusual or has been used by both males and females.

In an attempt to remedy the problem—and make sure the historical record is straight from now on—the bar is considering having dues reminder notices provide room to indicate the member's gender. Needless to say, this information would be optional.

■ **LOSS PREVENTION SEMINARS.** The Professional Liability Fund and Oregon Attorneys Assistance Program have scheduled several seminars for the spring and summer months. For more information, call Barbara Fishleder at 639-6911 or 1-800-452-1639.

Avoiding Legal Malpractice—Thursday, May 16, at the Shilo Inn in Newport, and Thursday, August 22, at the Red Lion in Medford. Both seminars begin at 1:00 p.m. and end at 4:45.

Learning the Ropes—for new admittees and lawyers entering private practice—on Friday, June 14, at Lewis and Clark College.

What Can You Do With Your Law Degree?—Friday, April 26, 8:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. at the Portland Hilton. The seminar features Hindi Greenberg.

Stress Management for Lawyers—Friday, May 31, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Touch of Class in Bend.

■ **CALLING ALL EXHIBITORS.** Reservations are now being taken for exhibit space at our November 2, 1991 conference on *Discrimination and CoDependency in the Legal Workplace* at the Valley Conference Center in Beaverton. The exhibit fee is \$150. Call Diane Rynerson at 235-8716.

■ **A GOOD ORGANIZATION.** The National Conference of Women's Bar Associations has, as its nucleus, member organizations such as Oregon Women Lawyers. However, NCWBA also offers individual memberships. Because of its public service awards to women's bars, its conferences, legislative action arm, newsletter, hotline reports, Clearinghouse materials, and active support of women in the law, NCWBA is a good organization to support. Personal memberships are \$25 or more, depending on level of support chosen. For more information, call (919) 482-8202.

■ **PRIVATE CLUB MEMBERSHIP.** At its March 16 meeting, our board approved a resolution asking the Oregon Judicial Conference to adopt a resolution barring judges from holding membership in a club that discriminates on the basis of race, sex, national origin, or religion. The resolution echoes Canon 2 of the ABA Code of Judicial Conduct and a resolution that was recently passed by

the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Private clubs have long provided professional networking opportunities that are denied to women and minorities. In addition, these clubs often enjoy tax breaks that are subsidized by the very people who are excluded!

The Judicial Conference will consider the resolution on Tuesday, April 30, 1991.

■ **WOMEN IN THE MAJORITY.** A fourth woman was recently named to the Minnesota Supreme Court, making it the only one in the nation to have a majority of women.

■ **SPEAKER'S BUREAU.** Carolyn Wilson Miller reports that she and Sarah Rosenberg are working hard to keep the names of Oregon Women Lawyers' speakers on the lists of those who plan CLEs. The two women are also meeting with Dianne Ericsson of the ABA Speakers Bureau to talk about coordinating the two groups' efforts.

■ **CELEBRATING WOMEN.** That's the purpose of a May 19 event sponsored by the Women's Foundation of Oregon at Montgomery Park, 2701 N. W. Vaughn Street in Portland. Keynote speaker for the event is comedienne "VJ"—Velma Jeremiah, retired partner at Stoel Rives. A special part of the evening is the presentation of *Celebrating Women, A Journal*, in which individuals honor the women who have nurtured and inspired them. The Women's Foundation raises money for programs that improve the economic, social, cultural, and political self-determination of women and girls. For information, call 228-9488.

■ **ANOTHER WOMAN BAR PRESIDENT.** New member Mark Lansing of Grants Pass has kindly written to remind us that there are now six women who head county bar associations in Oregon (not five, as stated in our recent articles on the subject). The sixth is **Risa Hall**, who heads the Josephine County Bar. Our apologies for the oversight.

Pioneers



MERCIA LETON KAHN, one of the most distinguished women lawyers to pass the Oregon bar, recently died at the age of 81 in Terra Linda, California. A 1933 graduate of the Northwestern School of Law of Lewis and Clark College, Kahn joined the Social Security Agency (as it was then called) in 1937, the year the agency was established. In the years that followed, she went on to become one of its top administrators.

In the 1960s, Kahn became one of the creators of Medicare and over the years earned the sobriquet "Mrs. Medicare" for her tireless work on behalf of the elderly.

California state Senator Ed Kramer has called Kahn "a pioneer throughout her life—a woman ahead of her times." Of Kahn's service in the Social Security Agency, Kramer notes, "She earned her stripes and promotions on ability alone,

becoming one of a handful of top women executives in government. She was a pioneer in the federal government service to attain the same goals and merits as men."

After Medicare was created, Kahn became the first regional Medicare director of the western states, serving from 1966 until her retirement in 1980.

During her career, Kahn won many honors for her work and many special assignments from the White House, including a role in the first White House Conference on Aging in 1961. She also helped write a handbook, "The Older American," which led to the Older Americans Act, adopted by Congress in 1965.

In news stories of the day, she was quoted as saying, "An old person's greatest fear is his last illness. . . and the terrific financial burden long hospitalization might put on his children and grandchildren. Now old people will be free from this anxiety."

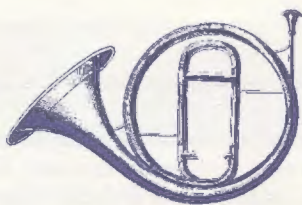
Even after she retired, Kahn continued to work actively on behalf of the elderly throughout California and in Marin County, where she made her home.

When her husband, Bernard Kahn, wrote Oregon Women Lawyers to tell of his wife's death, he ended his letter by saying, "I admire the objectives of your organization. From my 52 years of marriage to Mercia, I can say that a woman had to work twice as hard as a man to attain the same career level." He might have added, "and Mercia succeeded admirably."

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Pats & Pans

Kudos to Oregon Women Lawyers charter member **Judge Donald H. Londer** for setting the record straight. At a CLE, "Presiding Court," on January 30, 1991, Judge Londer corrected a speaker who commented, to a room full of both men and women attorneys attending the CLE, that when addressing attorneys coming to him under a certain circumstance, Judge Londer would say, "Gentlemen. . ."

Judge Londer responded that (1) he learned long ago to address attorneys before him as "counsel" and (2) he could "read the jury" (a reference to the "raised eyebrows" that the speaker's comment elicited).

Charlie Merten, chair of the recent employment law seminar put on by OLI, said that his goal in planning that seminar was to have half his presenters be men and half women. He would have achieved that goal if one woman had not had to decline the invitation. The split was six men and four women.

Congratulations to OLI Executive Director **Liz Stephens**, who runs an excellent, innovative CLE program that recognizes the competency of the OSB's diverse membership. Good work, Liz!

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Speaker Judith Nichols Has Got Your Number

Members of Oregon Women Lawyers are invited to attend a dinner meeting of the Network of Business and Professional Women to learn a thing or two from an expert in demographic change. The event, which will be held May 1 at Cal's Restaurant at John's Landing (5310 S. W. Macadam Avenue, Portland), features demographer Judith E. Nichols, author of *By the Numbers: Using Demographics and Psychographics for Business Growth in the 1990s*.

According to Ms. Nichols, a popular speaker at conferences and workshops throughout the Northwest, demographic trends will have significant implications for women and minorities—especially in Oregon. As the U. S. population decreases and begins to age, she points out, women and minorities will be increasingly sought after as skilled workers. Also, as the population shifts toward the southern and western regions of the country, Oregon is becoming one of the top choices of those who are moving out of state.

Businesses—including law firms—that want to remain competitive in the 1990s will need to be aware of these and other trends, both in building their client bases and in attracting and keeping skilled employees.

The event begins at 5:30 p.m. with no-host cocktails, followed by dinner at 6:15 and the program at 7:15. The cost for Oregon Women Lawyers and Network members is \$15 for a complete dinner and \$11 for a light dinner. Others may also attend by paying \$20 for a dinner and \$15 for a light meal. Advance reservations are required. For more information, call Diane Rynerson at 235-8716.



by Agnes Sowle

INTERESTING READING

Women Trial Lawyers: How They Succeed in Practice and in the Courtroom.

Edited by Janine N. Warsaw. Prentice-Hall, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, N. J. (1987)

In this highly practical book, seventeen of the nation's most prominent women attorneys describe the "nuts and bolts" of techniques that have helped them meet the challenges of trial work. Each chapter provides useful information: how to evaluate a case and negotiate the settlement, how to select jurors, how to give a clear and concise opening statement, how to improve your appearance before the jury, how to use video evidence, and much, much more.

Great reading for trial attorneys in general and personal injury attorneys in particular.

Too Good for Her Own Good: Breaking Free from the Burden of Female Responsibility.

By Claudia Bepko and Jo-Ann Krestan. Harper & Row, New York (1990).

The authors, who are family therapists, begin by exploring society's hidden "Code of Goodness," which traps

women into a sense of feminine responsibility to others. Then the authors follow up with practical advice for women who seek a way out. Bepko and Krestan explain that most women still fall into the "Superwoman" trap, feeling responsible for the happiness of spouses, children, relatives, co-workers, and friends, while trying to remain competent, happy, and full of energy. No matter how much they do to please others, these women often feel inadequate and ashamed "since to be good is to know that you're never good enough."

Unlike many books on the subject, this one does not simply identify the problem and (thus) make the reader feel guilty for not having known the answers all along. *Too Good for Her Own Good* offers a step-by-step process by which women can become comfortable, direct, firm, responsive, and nurturing. Inspirational!

Have you read a good book lately? Share your find with our readers. Contact Carolyn Buan at 287-3063 or send your review to her at 812 S. W. Washington, Suite 610, Portland, OR 97205.

A Good Showing in Seattle

Nell Hoffman Bonaparte and a panel of Oregon Women Lawyers members "did our organization proud" when they presented a session on *Practice in the 90s* at the National Conference of Women's Bar Association's workshop, given in conjunction with the ABA mid-year meeting in Seattle. Panel members Ruth Hooper, Pamela Stebbeds Knowles, Jeffrey L. Rogers, The Honorable Ellen Rosenblum, and Vicki Hopman Yates used their time to share information about alternate work schedules in the legal profession.

Organizers of the event were pleased with the substantive, professional nature of the panel and indicated that many registrants were drawn to the NCWBA program because it promised to have some real substance.

Best of all, we were able to expand the reach of the Working Parents Forum to lawyers from many other parts of the United States. We predict a ripple effect.

Thanks for a job well done.

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Coming Events

• **Elements of Money Management, Friday, May 24, 1991**, Offices of Meyer and Wyse. One hour introductory session 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. (coffee and rolls provided). Repeated noon to 1:00 (bring your brown bag). Overview of concepts, vocabulary of money management by Ardeth Hollo, a registered financial advisor and OWLS member. No charge. For information, call Diane Rynerson (235-8716).

• **Alternative Dispute Primer: Mediation, Negotiation, and Arbitration, Saturday, September 21**—The Hon. Kristena LaMar (Chair)

• **Annual Communications Workshop: Doing a Professional CLE, Friday, October 18**, —Nancy Moriarty (Chair)

• **Fall Conference: Discrimination and Co-Dependency in the Legal Workplace, November 2**, Valley Conference Center, Beaverton—Susan Evans Grabe and Katherine O'Neil (Program Co-chairs); Norma Freitas and Kathryn Olney, ("Nuts & Bolts" Committee Co-chairs).



1991 Oregon Women Lawyers Membership Application & Renewal

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☐ \$15... **Member** (law students)
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☐ \$45... **Membership Renewal** (1991 dues)

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ADSALES. Oregon Women Lawyers AdvanceSheet is looking for someone to sell advertising. Preference will be given to members. For information, call Diane Rynerson at 235-8716.

YOU ARE NOT ALONE. Women survivors of physical, sexual and/or incest abuse are invited to join the Oregon Attorney Assistance Program's Support Group for Survivors—Tuesdays at noon in Portland. Contact Layne Ng, 687-7028 (Eugene) or 226-1057 (Portland). The OAAP can be reached at 1-800-321-OAAP.

NEED SOME SUPPORT FOR DEALING WITH LIFE AND THE LAW? Call the completely confidential Oregon Attorney Assistance Program, 684-7424 or 1-800-321-OAAP; Michael Sweeney's direct line, 226-1057; Home (24 hours) 652-0459; or Layne Ng's direct (24-hour) line, 687-7028. The OAAP also offers a confidential and anonymous support group. Contact the same people listed above.

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