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Ellen Rosenblum Sworn In as Attorney General

At the Oregon State Capitol, Ellen Rosenblum was sworn in as attorney general of Oregon on June 29. Governor John Kitzhaber had appointed her to the office, vacated by John Kroger. She is the first woman to serve as Oregon's attorney general.

Governor Kitzhaber welcomed the overflowing crowd of Ellen's friends, colleagues, and family, and the press, and introduced Oregon's first female governor, Barbara Roberts. Following Governor Roberts was Justice Virginia Linder, the first woman to win a seat on the Oregon Supreme Court through a contested election. Both women observed the historic nature of this appointment.

After being sworn in by Governor Kitzhaber, Ellen said that she would lead the Department of Justice "so that Oregon's interests are represented at the highest level of ethics, professionalism, and devotion to public service."

Following the swearing-in ceremony was a public reception at the Mission Mill Dye House in Salem, where hundreds gathered to congratulate our new attorney general. Heather L. Weigler, OWLS' past president and Ellen's campaign manager during the primary campaign, introduced her. "Ellen isn't motivated by what's right for her; she's motivated by what's right for all of us. That is

Continued on page 7



Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum (left) and Justice Virginia Linder on June 29

OWLS Members Win in May Primary Election

By Teresa Statler

Congratulations to the OWLS members who were successful in the May 15 state primary election. Oregon has 2,021,263 registered voters; Democrats make up 40% of the electorate, and Republicans, 33%. In the May primary, there was a 39% voter turnout, with 44.5% of registered Democrats voting and 47% of Republicans. The general election will be held on November 6.

US Representative Suzanne Bonamici ran unopposed in the May Democratic primary and will face a Republican challenger to retain her seat in Congress, which she won in January. Suzanne is the first OWLS member to serve in the US Congress.

Ellen Rosenblum bested fellow OWLS member Dwight Holton in the Democratic primary for Oregon attorney general. She will face at least one opponent in November. As explained above, Ellen is now serving as attorney general.

Nena Cook and Judge Richard Baldwin of Multnomah County will vie in November for

position 3 on the Oregon Supreme Court. Portland attorney Tim Volpert faces an opponent for position 6 on the Oregon Court of Appeals. Secretary of State Kate Brown, a Democrat running for re-election, will face a Republican opponent in the general election.

Congratulations to Beth Heckert, who won election to the position of Jackson County district attorney over two challengers, with 54% of the vote. Beth, who has worked as a prosecutor in Jackson County for 23 years, will be the county's first female district attorney.

Other OWLS members successful in the May primary include Beth Bagley, who will face an

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Beth Heckert

The OWLS Fall CLE is on October 26. Please see page 2.

President's Message



Megan Livermore

ing forward to what is certain to be a busy and exciting year. Ultimately, as we embark on this year together, I hope we will all focus on what it really means to transform the practice of law.

In that vein, our organization has much to be proud of, including the following:

- In August, I will attend the National Conference of Women's Bar Associations' 2012 Women's Bar Leader Summit in Chicago. At the summit I will accept, on OWLS' behalf, the Outstanding Member Program Award for our first-generation professionals discussion group, started by Multnomah County Circuit Court Judge Katherine Tennyson, with help from Judges Youlee You and Angel Lopez. The Outstanding Member Program Award recognizes and highlights innovative programs and services offered by women's bar associations that focus on training and other benefits to their own members.
- On October 26, we will host our annual Fall CLE, entitled the "The Curious Relationship of Marriage and Freedom." Featuring as keynote speaker Columbia Law Professor Katherine Franke, this promises to be a great event.

First, I want to thank our members for the opportunity to serve as your president this year. I am pleased to be of service to such a wonderful organization and am look-

- In February, we will have another opportunity to recognize one of our pioneering members—the late Justice Betty Roberts—with the anticipated unveiling of her portrait by Eugene artist Lynda Lanker, which will hang in the Supreme Court Building in Salem. Fundraising efforts are underway for the portrait and a celebration at its unveiling. Please see page 7 and your bi-weekly OWLS E-News for additional information.

- Of course, throughout the year members can participate in the other great programs OWLS is known for, including OWLSNet inter-professional networking events, Leadership Forums, mentoring circles, and the career development and rainmaking dinner.

Second, in the spirit of the Roberts-Deiz awards, I hope to continue the organization's dedication to the values and ideals that Justice Roberts and Judge Deiz personified. In particular, their leadership provided opportunities not only to our organization but also to women and minoritized groups throughout our state. To this end, I have begun efforts to work more closely with our fellow specialty bar associations—to reach out and make meaningful connections with these organizations to better serve our various, and often overlapping, members.

Finally, I want to say thank you to our wonderful and hardworking board members and staff for their dedication to our mission. In particular, much appreciation goes to our executive director extraordinaire, Linda Tomassi, and our administrative coordinator, Celene Robert. This organization could not serve our members as well as it does without their tireless efforts.

Megan Livermore
President, Oregon Women Lawyers

For more information about OWLS activities, chapters, and volunteer opportunities, please visit www.oregonwomenlawyers.org.

OWLS Fall CLE on October 26

The Curious Relationship of Marriage and Freedom

By Kathleen J. Rastetter

On October 26, the OWLS Fall CLE will feature Columbia Law School Professor Katherine Franke. Professor Franke is the director of the Center for Gender and Sexuality Law at Columbia, and she received a Guggenheim Fellowship in 2011. She is a leading scholar on feminism, sexuality, and race.

Professor Franke's keynote address will compare the prominence of the right to marry in today's gay rights movement with the role of marriage rights for African Americans in the aftermath of slavery, which is the topic of her forthcoming book *Freedom Rules: The Curious Relationship of Marriage and Freedom*. Professor Franke serves on the executive committee of Columbia's Institute for Research on Women and Gender, is affiliated with Columbia's Center for Palestine Studies, and teaches at a medium security women's prison in Manhattan.

Also featured at the CLE will be Stanford Law Professor Pamela Karlan, who is a professor of public interest law and constitutional law and is co-director of Stanford's Supreme Court Litigation Clinic. She is one of the nation's leading experts on voting and the political process, and is co-author of three leading casebooks on constitutional law, constitutional litigation, and the law of democracy.

The OWLS Fall CLE will take place on the afternoon of Friday, October 26, at the Benson Hotel in downtown Portland. Please visit the OWLS website, www.oregonwomenlawyers.org, to register. We hope to see you there!

Kathleen J. Rastetter, senior counsel for Clackamas County, is OWLS' vice president and president-elect.



Katherine Franke

Our mission is to transform the practice of law and ensure justice and equality by advancing women and minorities in the legal profession.

OWLS Welcomes New Officers and Board Members

The OWLS board held its annual retreat at King Estate Winery in Eugene on May 5. At that time, the board elected new officers, who will serve from May 2012 to April 2013.

Megan Livermore was elected board president. Megan, an associate with Gaydos, Churnside & Balthrop in Eugene, previously served as OWLS' vice president and treasurer. OWLS' new vice president/president-elect is Kathleen J. Rastetter, who previously served as OWLS' treasurer and historian. She works in Oregon City as senior Clackamas County counsel.

Kendra Matthews was re-elected as secretary, having served previously as historian. She is a partner at Ransom Blackman in Portland. Elizabeth Tedesco Milesnick, an associate at Miller Nash in Portland, was re-elected as historian. Laura Craska Cooper, a partner at Ball Janik in Bend, was elected as treasurer, joining the executive committee for the first time.

Our newly elected and re-elected board members are Hon. Frances Burge (Roseburg), Dana Forman (Portland), Jaclyn Jenkins (Hermiston), Cassandra SkinnerLopata (Eugene), Susan O'Toole



The OWLS Board of Directors (left to right): Front row: Hon. Jill Tanner, Allison Boomer, Hon. Julia Philbrook, Megan Livermore, Shannon Reel, Kathleen Rastetter, Banafsheh Violet Nazari, Amber Hollister. Back row: Gloria Trainor, Hon. Frances Burge, Megan Burgess, Jaclyn Jenkins, Kendra Matthews, Angela Franco Lucero, Cass SkinnerLopata, Laura Craska Cooper. Not pictured: Gina Eiben, Dana Forman, Elizabeth Tedesco Milesnick, Susan O'Toole, Hon. Youlee You.

(Portland), Hon. Julia Philbrook (Salem), and Hon. Youlee You (Portland).

Board members continuing their service are Megan Burgess (Bend), Gina Eiben (Portland), Amber Hollister (Tigard), Angela Franco Lucero (Lake Oswego), Banafsheh Violet Nazari (Portland), Shannon Reel (Salem), Hon. Jill Tanner (Salem), and Gloria Trainor (Eugene). At

the retreat, the OWLS board appointed Allison Boomer (Salem) to the board to fill an open spot.

OWLS extends gratitude to outgoing board members President Heather L. Weigler (Portland), Heather Walloch (Eugene), and Sally Anderson-Hansell (Hermiston). We also thank all our board members and officers for their service.

Rogue Women Lawyers Host US Attorney



Beth Heckert (left) and Amanda Marshall

US Attorney for the District of Oregon Amanda Marshall was the guest speaker on June 27 at Rogue Women Lawyers' networking dinner. Over 20 lawyers, law students, and judges attended the event, organized by Staci Palin.

Accompanying Amanda was Bill Williams, chief of the Criminal Division for the US Attorney's Office. They could not have asked for a more pleasant evening, summer having decided to favor Oregon at the Rogue Valley Country Club.

Amanda gave an engaging, abbreviated history of her career path. She affirmed her commitment to the state of Oregon; she is working to strengthen relationships between the counties and the US Attorney's Office.



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Federal Judges Host OWLS Courthouse Connection

Enjoying the event
are (at right)
Maureen Leonard
and
(below, from left)
OWLS Dragonflies
Kristin Sterling,
Mary Dougherty,
Heather Brann,
Gwyn McAlpine,
and Tracy Sullivan.



OWLS Vice President Kathi Rastetter welcomed an energetic room of 75 people at the US Courthouse in Portland on June 15 for OWLS' annual Federal Courthouse Connection. She introduced the OWLS dragon boat team, the Dragonflies.

Team member Gwyn McAlpine briefly addressed the room, happy to announce that the Dragonflies had finished the 2012 Rose Festival races by winning the bronze medal in the Women's Division 1. This is the first time since 2004 that the team has won a medal at the Rose Festival. It is a impressive accomplishment, particularly because the ceremonial boats used for the race are large and heavy, as opposed to the long, lean dragon boats used for most races and training. [For more on the races, please see the back page.] The team begins recruiting new members this fall.

Chief Judge Ann Aiken introduced her judicial colleagues in attendance, including Judge Merri Souther Wyatt from the Multnomah County Circuit Court, and several federal judges: Judge Susan Graber, Judge Garr King, Judge John Acosta, Judge Janice Stewart, and Judge Michael Simon. Magistrate Judge Pat Sullivan and Amanda Marshall, US attorney for the District of Oregon, were also present.

Judge Aiken also introduced Dian Odell, daughter of the late Justice Betty Roberts, and Maureen Leonard, former clerk to Justice Roberts. Maureen encouraged donations to the Betty Roberts portrait project. The portrait will be unveiled in early 2013. Maureen described the portrait as "a gift from the present to the future" and "a community celebration of Oregon's treasure, Betty Roberts." [For more information on the portrait, please see page 7.]

Lunch and ice cream were provided by the federal court for all in attendance. OWLS thanks Jolie Russo and Judge Ann Aiken for graciously hosting this annual event.

OWLS First-Generation Professionals Meet to Talk

By Judge Katherine Tennyson and Linda Tomassi

After Judge Katherine Tennyson offered a young lawyer some pointers following her courtroom argument, she learned that the lawyer was the first in her family to go to college. The judge saw potential in the skills of the lawyer; the lawyer wasn't used to getting help, from anyone, and did not know how to ask. It dawned on the judge, whose parents owned and operated a dry cleaners and a gas station, that the lawyer might be in good company with other professionals whose life experiences may not have prepared them for the professional world. Thus began OWLS' first-generation professionals discussion group in August 2011. The group meets every other month.

At the first meeting in August, providing her jury room and cookies, Judge Tennyson, joined by fellow Judges You, Lopez, and Walker, led a frank discussion about the cultural and professional issues that may arise when one grows up with parents whose daily work destination is not "the office." The invitation had attracted a room full of lawyers and

law students—Judge Tennyson had hit a nerve.

Participants shared stories, including the single mother who is going to law school on a scholarship, the associate who found out recently that she was the only one at her firm who didn't have professional parents, attorneys new to town, immigrants, and the attorney whose father apologizes to people that his daughter is a lawyer.

The discussion revealed that it is important to find professional and personal support when your family does not know how or why to support you. Understanding professional and social norms is more difficult if those norms were not common in your upbringing. The group also noted that one key to success is figuring out who you are and incorporating that knowledge into what you do. What in the professional environment do you find difficult? Are you dissatisfied with the "fake it 'til you make it" approach? Would you like to talk with people who might have a shared experience?

The group's subsequent meetings have

also included informal, wide-ranging, honest discussions. All lawyers and law students whose parents did not obtain professional degrees or have professional careers

are welcome to attend. You'll find meeting dates in the OWLS e-newsletter.

On August 3, the National Conference of Women's Bar Associations will give its Outstanding Member Program Award to OWLS in recognition of our first-generation professionals discussion group. The award will be presented at the NCWBA's annual summit for women bar leaders, taking place this year in Chicago.

Judge Katherine Tennyson serves on the Multnomah County Circuit Court. **Linda Tomassi** is OWLS' executive director.



Judge Tennyson

OWLS Rainmaking Mentoring Circle Provides Guidance on Business Development

By Karie Trujillo and Holly Johnston

Twenty-five young attorneys gathered at the Portland offices of Markowitz, Herbold, Glade & Mehlhaf on June 20 to share what they had learned during the second annual OWLS rainmaking mentoring circle. The mentoring circle brings together attorneys who want to develop rainmaking skills and experienced mentors who have proven themselves as effective business developers. This year's mentors included Paula Barran of Barran Liebman, Marsha Murray-Lusby of Dunn Carney, Judy Snyder of Law Offices of Judy Snyder, and Steve English of Perkins Coie.

The "mentees" were broken up into small groups and paired with a mentor before the mentoring circle's April kick-off meeting at Marger Johnson & McCollom in Portland. The groups then met with their mentors throughout April, May, and June to discuss such topics as networking, case selection, generating referrals, the value of extra-curricular commitments, marketing, business plans, finding a niche, and closing the deal with a client.



Photo by Holly Johnston

Mentors (from left) Paula Barran, Marsha Murray-Lusby, Stephen English

The mentees reported that the opportunity to be mentored by the legal community's leading rainmakers was a tremendous experience and has given their business development activities more focus and impact.

Thank you to mentors Paula Barran, Marsha Murray-Lusby, Judy Snyder, and Steve English for all of their efforts in making this program one of OWLS' most popular. Additionally, many thanks to

program sponsors Markowitz, Herbold, Glade & Mehlhaf and Marger Johnson & McCollom.

Holly Johnston of Marger Johnson & McCollom, and chair of the OWLS mentoring circles sub-committee, and Karie Trujillo of Markowitz, Herbold, Glade & Mehlhaf organized this program on behalf of OWLS and their respective firms.

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OWLS Foundation Selects Officers and Board Members

By Trudy Allen

*The OWLS Foundation Board of Directors (left to right):
Seated: Maite Uranga, Karen Nashiwa, Sarah Freeman, Jodee Jackson, Kim Sugawa-Fujinaga.
Standing: Phylis Myles, Cristina Sanz, Terri Kraemer, Nanci Klinger, Lori Deveny, Trudy Allen, Kristin Larson, Aruna Masih, Libby Davis, Jill Brittle, Yumi O'Neil, Laurie Craghead.
Not pictured: Suzanne Lacampagne, Melissa Chureau, Diane Rynerson (ex officio).*



This spring, the OWLS Foundation selected officers and board members for terms starting May 1, 2012. The board elected Maite Uranga to join the board for a 3-year term and re-elected the following board members for 3-year terms: Trudy Allen, Jill Brittle, Laurie Craghead, Libby Davis, Terri Kraemer, and Yumi O'Neil.

The board elected the following officers for the year starting May 1: Jill Brittle,

president; Yumi O'Neil, president-elect; Cristina Sanz, secretary; Karen Nashiwa, treasurer (a 2-year term); and Trudy Allen, historian.

In addition, the board re-elected Katherine O'Neil and Kathryn Root to continue on the advisory board.

In January, the board elected Sarah Freeman to fill the term of Anne Senters, who left the board due to her other commitments.

The board thanks outgoing President Aruna Masih for her leadership this past year. The board also wishes to thank Libby Davis for her service as an officer for the last eight years; she is a former president and just completed her sixth year as treasurer.

Trudy Allen, general counsel of US Bancorp Equipment Finance, Inc., in Tigard, is the historian of the OWLS Foundation.

Law Schools Give Mentor Awards to OWLS Members

By Kathleen J. Rastetter

Law schools this year recognized an impressive number of OWLS members for their mentoring efforts.

Lewis & Clark Law School presented its 16th annual mentor awards at a reception on April 4. The awards recognize mentors, nominated by their mentees, who provided exceptional support and guidance in the past year. OWLS members Meg Clark-Kilcoyne and Christine Tracey received awards for their efforts with first-year mentees. The Andrea Swanner Redding Outstanding Mentor Award, which is given to a mentor of an upper-division student, was presented to Heather Bowman.

The awards ceremony concluded with the presentation of a new award, the Honorable Darleen Ortega Outstanding Judicial Mentor Award, which was given to the Honorable Darleen Ortega. The award was created to recognize Judge Ortega's long history of informal mentoring of students. In the future, this award will be presented to judicial mentors to specially recognize the significant amount of time that judges devote to mentoring students.

Willamette University College of Law recognized longtime mentor and OWLS member Karen Moynahan. Karen usually



*At left: Heather Bowman (left) with her mentee, C. J. Graves.
Below: Judge Darleen Ortega (center) with law students (from left) Halah Ilias, Silvia Tanner, Sheeba Suhaskumar, Monica Bustos, and Khloe Lee.*



has two or three mentees—this year she has four. She takes an active interest in her mentees' lives and offers advice about issues that arise in law school and how to practice law, with an emphasis on environmental law. Karen has served as a mentor for over 15 years.

Willamette also presented mentor awards to the following OWLS members: Judge Mary James (who was the school's mentor of the year in 1999), Maureen

McGee, Vanessa Nordyke, Shenoa Payne (mentor of the year in 2010), Jennifer Sommer, and Judge Jill Tanner.

Congratulations to all these mentors for receiving awards in recognition of their exceptional support and guidance to Oregon's future lawyers.

Kathleen J. Rastetter, senior counsel for Clackamas County, is OWLS' vice president and president-elect.

Artist at Work on Portrait of Betty Roberts

By Gloria Trainor

In the south hills of Eugene, among spring rhododendrons in full, glorious bloom, artist Lynda Lanker works diligently on a portrait of the late Justice Betty Roberts. Lynda's studio is peaceful and full of natural light, and her demeanor is equally warm and welcoming. Portraits of women—from poets to cowgirls—line the walls. One sits on an easel, and though it is incomplete, it is undeniably Betty.

Tax-deductible donations to help fund this project can be made to the Oregon Historical Society. To give online, go to <https://shop.ohs/secure/donations.asp>. Be sure to enter "Justice Betty Roberts Portrait Fund" on the screen that says "any special instructions."

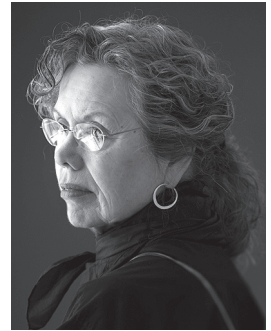
Checks can be written and mailed to OHS, 1200 SW Park Ave., Portland, OR 97205. Be sure to put "Justice Betty Roberts Portrait Fund" in the memo line.

Lynda is a renowned lithographer and painter with unparalleled talent for portraiture. Among her commissioned portraits are those of five University of Oregon presidents. She works with a variety of media, including stone lithography, watercolor, and egg tempera. She has been commissioned to create Betty's portrait, which will be installed in the Supreme Court building at the celebration of Betty's 90th birthday in February 2013.

Although Lynda never had the opportunity to meet Betty, she attended her Memorial Tribute at the Supreme Court building earlier this year. The experience led her to choose lithography for Betty's portrait.

Stone lithography works because of the mutual repulsion of oil and water. Simply put, an oil-based crayon is used to sketch an image on a limestone slab. Next, the stone is moistened with water. The parts of the stone not covered with the greasy image absorb the water. An oil-based ink is rolled onto the stone, and the wet areas of the stone repel it. Finally, when a

piece of paper is pressed onto the limestone, the ink transfers from the stone to the paper. Multiple prints may be created from the same stone. Prints of Betty's portrait will be available next year.



Lynda Lanker

"Color sometimes distracts from character," Lynda said of what will be a black-and-white portrait. She chose to place Betty standing in the courtroom, but shied away from rendering an image of her in her judicial robe; instead, it is casually draped over her arm. "Betty was bigger than the Supreme Court—she was about so much more," Lynda mused. Indeed, she was.

Gloria Trainor, an OWLS board member, is a personal injury attorney at Johnson, Johnson, Larson & Schaller in Eugene.

AG Ellen Rosenblum

continued from page 1

what Oregon, and this country, deserves from our public officials, but what far too often we don't get." Addressing the crowd, Ellen restated her commitment to be the people's lawyer, noting that the Department of Justice will protect "the most vulnerable among us."

Ellen has been an active member of OWLS since she served on our founding board of directors. Congratulations!

May Primary Election

continued from page 1

opponent in November for an open position for circuit court judge in Deschutes County, and Democrat Jennifer Williamson, who will face a Republican challenger for state representative, 36th district (part of Multnomah County). Also running for the same seat was OWLS member Sharon Meieran.

OWLS commends and congratulates all our members who run for office, whether for partisan or non-partisan positions.

Teresa Statler practices immigration law in Portland.

Queen's Bench Luncheon: Are Law Schools Conning Us?

By Julie Lohuis and Teresa Statler

On March 13, Shannon L. Davis, assistant dean of admissions at Lewis & Clark Law School, spoke at the monthly Queen's Bench luncheon in Portland. Her presentation was titled "Are Law Schools Conning Us?" She discussed topics in the news lately: law schools misreporting data, and lawsuits brought against law schools for providing misleading data.

Shannon began her presentation by describing two incidents involving law schools that misrepresented data regarding admissions. In February 2011, Villanova law school disclosed that at the direction of a former dean, it had misrepresented the median LSAT scores and the median GPAs of its entering classes, as well as the number of admission offers it had extended to applicants. Only a few months later, the University of Illinois also disclosed that it had misrepresented admissions data. The misrepresentation was tied to the law school's dean, whose salary was linked to improving the school's publicly released statistics and data.

At nearly the same time, two law schools, in Michigan and New York, were

sued by former students for fraud. In class action lawsuits, the plaintiffs alleged that the schools had made false claims regarding graduates' employment and salaries. These incidents brought national attention to how law schools report admissions and employment data.

Each year, Shannon explained, law schools report various data to organizations including the magazine *US News*, the National Association of Law Placement (NALP), and the American Bar Association (ABA). These data include statistics on admissions and job placement. In Shannon's opinion, admissions data are straightforward and easy for law schools to obtain and report accurately. The data include, for example, the entering class's median GPA and LSAT score and the number of admission offers extended to potential students.

Shannon said that career placement data are more complex and thus harder for law schools to obtain and report accurately. These data include the employment of graduates nine months out of law school and median salaries for new attorneys. In addition, organizations' reporting

periods differ: some cover a calendar year, and others, a school year.

Shannon explained why the employment statistics can be hard to understand.

Historically, the ABA (the organization that accredits law schools) had asked law schools to disclose only whether graduates were employed nine months after graduation. It did not matter whether the graduate was employed in law or in some other field. As a result, the published statistics often did not reflect how many graduates were employed in legal positions.

After news of the class action lawsuits, the ABA began requiring law schools to provide much more detailed information about the placement of their recent graduates. Consequently, law schools are changing how they present their data to the general public. Shannon said that Lewis & Clark Law School is now publishing clearer data related to the employment of its graduates. She also thinks that law schools are headed toward very detailed publishing of employment information, such as how many graduates are employed as sole practitioners, how many are in large firms, whether the employment is full-time or part-time, and whether the employment requires a JD.

"Things are changing," Shannon said. The changes are a result of the poor economy, the increase in the number of law schools in recent years, increases in tuition, and the fact that so many law graduates are looking for employment. The lawsuits, as well as students' blogs, automation, and changes in the legal employment market, have brought much-needed attention to the problem of rankings and reporting. Law school applicants are also becoming savvier and asking more detailed questions of law schools' admissions and career services departments. Shannon was optimistic that systemic changes now in the works will result in the presentation of the data in a clearer and more usable way.



Shannon L. Davis

Queen's Bench Hosts PLF Advisor

By Christine Coers-Mitchell

Sheila Blackford, a practice management advisor with the Oregon State Bar's Professional Liability Fund (PLF), was the speaker at the June 12 Queen's Bench luncheon in Portland.

Oregon's PLF was the second such organization in the country to create a law-practice management program. The goal of the OSB's program is to advise lawyers on how to set up, plan for, and succeed at running their own law offices. By helping lawyers troubleshoot in the early stages of setting up their practices, the PLF helps lawyers avoid malpractice claims that may come as a result of poor planning.

As a practice management advisor, Sheila works one-on-one with Oregon lawyers. A former sole practitioner herself, she has a lot of experience in this area. She and her colleagues at the PLF are available to work with attorneys on a range of issues, including office systems, office management, financial management, and client relations. They have created several tools designed to help attorneys plan and manage their practices, such as checklists, budgets, and sample fee agreements. More information about the PLF's Practice Management Advisor Program and the services available can be found on the PLF's website, www.osbplf.org.

Queen's Bench luncheons take place on the second Tuesday of every month from 11:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Standard auditorium, concourse level, 900 SW 5th Avenue in downtown Portland. The cost for the buffet luncheon (always with a vegetarian option) is \$15, payable by cash or check at the door. No reservations are required.

Christine Coers-Mitchell, a partner in Coers Mitchell Law, is the president of Queen's Bench, the OWLS chapter in Portland.



Sheila Blackford

Julie Lohuis is a partner at Yazzolino & Lohuis in Portland. **Teresa Statler** practices immigration law in Portland.

Clackamas Chapter Spends an Evening with Avel Gordly

By Jennifer Dalglish

Sometimes, when you are among greatness, you can feel it. This feeling was evident on May 30 at the Cypress restaurant in Oregon City, where members of Clackamas Women Lawyers (CWLS) were joined by author, activist, and former legislator Avel Gordly for an evening of drinks, food, and discourse.

The evening began with a social hour, giving CWLS members the opportunity to mingle with one another, other guests, and Avel Gordly. Kicking off the formal segment of the evening, Elizabeth Munns, on behalf of CWLS, presented to the president of Clackamas Community College, Joanne Truesdell, a donation to the Clackamas Community College Foundation for its Life and Career Options Program. CWLS President Andrea Anderly then introduced our guest author.

Avel Gordly was born in Portland just after World War II, grew up in a working class household, and graduated in 1965 from the predominantly white Girls Polytechnic High School. She went on to a career in community organizing and public service that included 17 years in the state legislature, five years in the House and 12 in the Senate, ending in 2008.

Avel Gordly is one of Portland's most prominent African American leaders and the first African American woman elected to the Oregon State Senate. Her

memoir, *Remembering the Power of Words: The Life of an Oregon Activist, Legislator, and Community Leader*, is about growing up black in Portland. In the book, Avel speaks to the challenges of growing up at a time when women's voices were muted and discrimination against blacks was widely tolerated. She also describes the struggles she faced as a wife, mother, student, political activist, and elected public official.

Avel began her presentation with a short introduction, but then asked for introductions from everyone in the room. This one simple act allowed every person in attendance to be and feel included, and it changed the dynamic of the event. She then read a selection from her book and invited discussion. The selection she chose included an enlightening anecdote about a friend, his attorney, and the power of politics. A lively discussion ensued.

CWLS members were joined by other OWLS members and legal professionals in this thought-provoking discussion, including Mariann Hyland, director of diversity and inclusion at the Oregon State Bar; Tom Kranovich, a member of the OSB Board of Governors; and Clackamas County Circuit Court Judge Eve Miller, all of whom are OWLS members.

At one point, a participant mentioned



Elizabeth Munns (left) and Avel Gordly

having been "frustrated" with the legislative process, and Avel pointed out the power of using a word such as that. We may never know whether her ability to make everyone in a room feel important, comfortable, and included is natural or honed, but this ability was obvious. She doesn't just pay lip service to inclusion, she practices it.

Avel pulled her presentation to a close with many words of wisdom, including reminding us all to find what makes our heart sing and to follow it and the hope it will bring. She also reminded us to remain actively engaged and never be content to be a bystander. The evening concluded with individual book signings.

Thank you, Avel, for sharing your evening with us.

Jennifer Dalglish is the Clackamas County law librarian.

Mary Leonard Goes to Monte Carlo

By Kate Lozano

This year, the Mary Leonard Law Society's spring charity event was Monte Carlo Casino Night, held on the beautiful, summer-like evening of May 11. With the generous support of entertainment sponsor Saalfeld Griggs, PC, the support and ongoing partnership of the Marion County Bar Association, and the support of table sponsors Hetzel Williams law firm and Dean L. Allen, CPA of Pacific Valuation and Forensics, the fourth annual MLLS spring fundraising soiree was once again successful.

In addition to raising over \$4,000 for the worthy causes of Liberty House and the Mid-Valley Women's Crisis Service, the event was very well received by its guests. They enjoyed the lovely setting of the Creekside Golf Course for casino games, hors d'oeuvres, and wonderful local wines and micro-brews; they also embraced the evening's theme by appearing in attire



Photo by Sarah Shepard

MLLS members Kate Lozano (left) and Allison Boomer, an OWLS board member

worthy of any Bond film. Additionally, both the raffle and silent auction were popular, with a wide variety of items available for bid or chance, from celebrity swag and beauty treatments to weekend getaways and athletic event tickets.

Although the casino night was an evening of entertainment and glamour, MLLS was proud to host an event that was, at its heart, one to benefit worthy organiza-

tions that support women and children who have endured trauma. Liberty House has been Marion County's child abuse assessment center since 1999, providing compassionate and skilled assessment of children who may have suffered from many types of abuse or neglect.

The Mid-Valley Women's Crisis Service provides shelter and a variety of support programs for women and children survivors of domestic violence and sexual violence. If you would like to donate time or money to these charities, please call Liberty House at 503.540.0288 or visit www.libertyhousecenter.org/help.php, or contact the Mid-Valley Women's Crisis Service at volunteer@mvwcs.com or 503.378.1572, or visit www.mvwcs.com/community/index.html.

Kate Lozano works at the Oregon Department of Justice, in Portland and Salem.

Meet OWLS Board Member Judge Frances Burge

By Hon. Jill Tanner

When you were 13 years old, did you know that you wanted to be an attorney? The Honorable Frances Burge, now a Douglas County Circuit Court judge and an OWLS board member, did. Her career choice was driven by the disrespect shown to her grandmother, a Mexican national living in California who, with limited ability to speak English, faced the daily challenge of being understood and respected.

Judge Burge, who was appointed to the bench in June 2009 and elected in November 2010, is in the right place to carry out her goal of ensuring that individuals are heard and, in her words, always have a voice. As a judge, she enjoys the different roles offered to her—to be a neutral listener, a problem solver, a community partner, and a fair and impartial decision maker who respects the rule of law. Judge Burge's road to the bench was facilitated by the opportunity to clerk for Polk County Presiding Judge Charles E. Luukinen while attending Willamette University College of Law and before being admitted to practice law.

Judge Burge is the second woman to serve as a judge in Douglas County. (Judge Joan Seitz was the first.) In deciding to submit her application to serve on the bench, Judge Burge was strongly encouraged by her husband, Jim; her supervisor, District Attorney Rick Wesenberg; and a former law school classmate and OWLS board member, among others. She was also driven by her conviction that a diverse judiciary is important. Judge Burge encourages women and minorities to "believe in yourself and be confident in your abilities."

As an OWLS board member, Judge Burge serves on OWLS' judicial work group and the membership committee.

Judge Burge's first legal position after law school was as a prosecutor for the Douglas County District Attorney's Office, a position she held for ten years. She served as the drug court prosecutor and part of the drug court team. During her final two years as a prosecutor, she was the Douglas Interagency Narcotics Team prosecutor, handling all the major drug cases in addition to Measure 11 cases.

Being involved with a narcotics team was not a new experience for Judge Burge. After graduating from the University of California at Davis, she was hired by the Contra Costa Sheriff's Department as the unit commander's assistant, and she spent 13 years there working with a narcotics task force composed of local,

county, state, and federal law enforcement.

Judge Burge is a first-generation college graduate and lawyer. She considers her parents the most influential people in her life. Her father, one of 12 children, was raised in a poor farming community. Her mother was born in Mexico and grew up in Mexico and California, in a household where English was a second language.

Because of her parents' personal sacrifice and encouragement, Judge Burge and her two brothers were given educational opportunities that were never offered to their parents. Judge Burge remembers that her parents encouraged her to follow her dreams to be a lawyer, and to this day her parents continue to be a major part of her support system. It is with family that Judge Burge finds fun and relaxation.

Thank you, Judge Burge, for your service.

Hon. Jill Tanner is the presiding magistrate of the Oregon Tax Court and an OWLS board member.



Judge Frances Burge



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MLLS Supports New Imprint Program

By Shannon Reel and Heather Vogel song

The Mary Leonard Law Society (MLLS), the OWLS chapter in Salem, was one of three organizations that recently funded an Imprint Program at North Salem High School. Each of 31 local volunteers read one or two classic books with a high school student through the program, which matches attorneys with students so they can form one-on-one relationships over a semester through reading a book and exchanging letters about the book. At the end of the program, the adults and students enjoyed meeting each other in person at a brief party at the school.

The Imprint Program provides students an opportunity to interact with positive adult role models and encourages the students' interest in learning. Each of the students who participated had been identified as having the intellectual capacity to attain college entrance but also being susceptible to factors that might prevent attendance, such as economic or language barriers or the lack of a support system.

We extend thanks to the Marion County Bar Association, Mary Leonard Law Society, and Willamette University College of Law for funding and supporting the spring Imprint Program. We also extend a special thank you to the many volunteers, from each of these organizations, who read books and wrote letters to the students, and to Cathryn Bowie, who took pictures at the party.

Shannon Reel and Heather Vogel song, MLLS members and the coordinators of this program, work at the Oregon Department of Justice in Salem.

Shaping Ourselves and Our Justice System

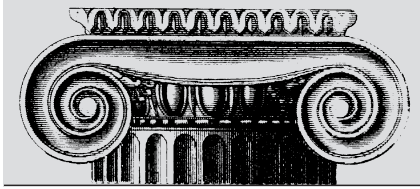
Lately, I have been talking with judicial clerks and recent law school graduates about their budding careers and plans for the future. I have also listened in as they discuss these topics among themselves. I find that as a class, these new lawyers and graduates are bright, sophisticated, and determined. Even in the face of a daunting job market, most of them expect their new profession to provide them with meaningful work and an opportunity to live balanced personal lives that feel worthwhile. These discussions have gotten me ruminating about our work as lawyers and about our legal community.

Anyone who has worked as a lawyer knows that the work can be incredibly rewarding and meaningful. The profession can also be difficult and demanding. From the day we graduate from law school, we begin the walk and then the run to learn the trade, develop business, succeed, and achieve. For many of us, this means meeting the demands of clients, the deadlines of courts, and the expectations of those with whom we work. What is more, there is no shortage of people willing to fuel our ambition.

Many of us find that the structure of the profession, especially in private practice, rewards those who are willing and able to work longer and harder, who develop the most clients and bring in the most money. Consequently, some of us get lost in the business of law. We get caught up in the having and getting and keeping. Winning and losing and economic fortune take on disproportionate importance and sometimes become proxies for a sense of self.

This, in turn, can produce a myopic vision when it comes to life beyond work and career. It becomes easy to lose hold of a life that belongs to us, a life in which we can dig in the garden, hike the butte, teach our son to ride his bike, or coach our daughter in basketball and be present in those experiences. Some of us hardly notice as we lose our appreciation for life's simple pleasures: enjoying a meal with people we love, noticing the crocus breaking ground in early spring, sitting in front of the fire with a good book. We also fail to recognize that we are losing the joy in our work—the thrill of putting the pieces together, the satisfaction of crafting a worthy argument, the good feeling that comes with doing a job well.

THE JUDGES' FORUM



By Judge Suzanne Chanti
Lane County Circuit Court

As we lose touch with the richness of our own lives, we distance ourselves from qualities that are worth emulating. We forget the importance we once placed on being kind, respectful, patient, and openhearted. As those finer qualities give way, it is easy to get separated from the law's higher calling. By that I mean the call to serve the foundational values of our democracy that are enshrined in our justice system and to help not only individuals but also our community. I think that most lawyers, when they began their careers, were at least partially motivated by these notions. Even now, if we turn our minds from the immediate demands of a case or client, most of us can feel their pulse.

In his book *Heracles' Bow: Essays on the Rhetoric and Poetics of the Law*, James Boyd White describes the law as "an intellectual and cultural activity—as something we do with our mind, with our language and with each other." Thinking about the law in this way helps us realize that what lawyers think, do, and say not only informs the law but also shapes the relationship between our legal system and our greater community—in ways that can be far more potent than an appellate court pronouncement or legislative declaration.

As lawyers, we understand the law's lexicon. We use terms such as assault and battery, breach of contract, manslaughter, and wrongful discharge as labels for a complex set of reasoning that, for the most part, remains the sole province of lawyers. Certainly, the conversations between lawyers and between lawyers and judges about the application of legal rules shape the contours of the law itself, especially in the difficult case in which the legal rules permit a range of competing outcomes.

Yet, the idea that the law is also a cultural activity brings us closer to understanding how our behavior, what we do and say, shapes our justice system and our community's experience of that system. It also brings into focus a view of our justice system as a profoundly human endeavor.

Considering the law in this way more clearly reveals how a rude statement, an unprepared presentation, a stretching of the truth, a loss of com-

posure, or an unreasonable position contributes to a legal culture that is less humane and less respected by participants in the system and by the community at large.

It seems to me that this understanding of the law can also serve as an antidote against losing ourselves to the business of law. Recognizing that the law is, in part, a cultural activity gives us an additional way to value what we do that goes beyond the definition of success tied to wins and economic gain. It can instill in us a recognition that we are responsible, as much as anything, for creating the culture of the law and people's experience of our justice system. It also asks that we bring our authentic selves to the work.

This brings me back to my observation about how easy it is for professional demands and other people's expectations to strip from us a complete life. If we allow our work to diminish us, then what we bring to the work is a diminished self; the cycle is complete, each diminishment perpetuating the other. It can, however, be otherwise. One step in that other direction is to remain mindful that our work is profoundly human and that to do it well, we must approach it well-grounded in our complete selves.

When I consider our new class of lawyers, I have no doubt that many of them will find that our profession is more challenging and more demanding than they anticipated. For many of them, long hours and constant demands will be the norm. Still, I hope that most of them will retain their initial determination to do meaningful work and to live a full and balanced life that feels worthwhile. I hope that they will participate in the activity of the law mindful that their very way of being has an impact far beyond the case at hand and that what they say and do means as much to our system of justice, and to their understanding of themselves as lawyers, as whether or not a particular case is a success. My hope is that those of us who have been lawyers for a while will be inspired to join them in that endeavor.



Judge Suzanne Chanti

Horses and House Calls: Practicing Law in a Small Town

By Teresa Statler

Many of us who practice in “the big city,” in firms large and small, often wonder what it would be like to practice law in a small town in our beautiful state of Oregon. The *AdvanceSheet* spoke to three small-town OWLS members who do just that, and who are happy and fulfilled, professionally and personally.

Kittee Custer is a sole practitioner with an office on Court Avenue in downtown Pendleton. A “Navy brat,” she was born in Florida and grew up in California, Hawaii, and Portland. Her practice is one-half criminal defense work (including her work as the public defender in Milton-Freewater), and the other half is split between domestic relations and Social Security disability. Kittee lives on a 73-acre ranch outside Milton-Freewater, where she raises Palominos, Arabians, and a mule; she commutes the 64 miles round-trip to Pendleton in her trusty Subaru.

Kittee landed in Pendleton after graduating from Lewis & Clark Law School in 1999, when she answered a job posting for a public defender. She knew about Pendleton from her children’s swim meets—she knew it was warm and had wide-open spaces and horses. Her practice covers Baker, Umatilla, and Union Counties, and her clients are mostly low-income, blue-collar folks. Kittee reports that she is in court daily, while her two support staffers back her up at the office. It gives her satisfaction, she says, to feel part of her community, and she likes the quality of life. She reports that in a small town, everyone knows everyone else, and the practice of law is, for the most part, collegial.

Kittee is a member of OWLS’ Rebecca J. Bloom Chapter of Umatilla and Morrow Counties. She looks forward to the chapter’s luncheons and get-togethers and is grateful for the support and friendships she has made. Outside of her practice, she belongs to horse clubs, sells produce from her garden at the local farmers’ market, and fights the proliferation of wind farms in her area.

Michele Grable also practices law in Pendleton, in the small firm Grable, Hantke & Hansen. Originally from Philadelphia, Michele graduated from Willamette University College of Law. She began her legal career with Umatilla County, first as a deputy district attorney

and then as the county counsel. She opened her private law practice in 1981. For over 20 years, she has exclusively handled family law matters, including family law mediation.

Michele’s law practice is located in a charming old home two blocks from the Umatilla County Courthouse. She practices with two junior partners and support staff. She reports, like Kittee, that most of her practice relies on “word of mouth.” Michele believes that “the best marketing is a satisfied client.” She also believes that in a small town, marketing a law practice includes establishing yourself in the community, participating in volunteer work, and finding an older attorney (or two) to be your mentor and a source of referrals.

Challenges in Michele’s law practice include travel in winter; she does over half of her work in Union, Wallowa, and Baker Counties. “Travel up and down Cabbage Hill is treacherous in the winter due to fog, snow, ice, and crazy truckers,” she says.

Michele has chosen to live in a small town “to escape the anonymity of the city and to embrace the fellowship of a community. I like walking down Main Street and saying hello to and knowing most everyone I meet.” Her practice representing the men and women of eastern Oregon is satisfying because she feels that she makes a difference in people’s lives.

Outside of the law, Michele is a passionate horsewoman. She also plays racquetball and skis. She and her husband live on a small farm, where they raise chickens and vegetables and where, she reports, “I am the weeder-in-chief!”

Barbara Bower practices law in Junction City. She works out of a home office, where her clients range from college students to people in their 90s. She practices tax law, estate planning, probate, and small business and nonprofit organization.

Originally from Florence, Oregon, Barbara chose to live in Junction City because

16 years ago, when she and her husband moved there, he worked in Corvallis and she worked for a law firm in Eugene. Junction City was in between.

One reason

Barbara started practicing out of her home was to be more available to her small children. Initially, she worried that potential clients would be put off by her home office. Barbara has found, however, that many clients actually prefer this setting to a traditional law office. She reports that “clients are very happy to sit with me at my large (conference-sized) dining room table.” Barbara thinks that in a small town like Junction City, it’s easier to get away with not having a fancy law office.

Barbara’s clients come from all over Oregon—from Portland to Oakridge to Klamath Falls. She employs a part-time legal assistant and enjoys her large, fully equipped home office with its two picture windows that allow her to watch birds and squirrels.

Barbara reports that she does not market her practice a lot. She is, however, a member of the Junction City Chamber of Commerce and has listings in the Eugene/Springfield phone book. Additionally, over the years she has established many referral sources consisting of other professionals who recommend her and her services. She hopes to soon have her own website. Volunteer work at her church and local school also results in referrals. Barbara, like Michele, finds that “satisfied clients” are an excellent marketing tool.

Barbara believes that as a sole practitioner in a small town, it is important to have an established network of other attorneys whom you can call with questions outside your practice area. She appreciates having those professional connections and enjoys it when other attorneys call her. Barbara also highly recommends the Oregon State Bar’s listserves for networking and practice-related questions.

Satisfying moments in Barbara’s prac-



Barbara Bower



Michele Grable

OWLS Book Drive Yields Thousands of Books

By Amy Blake

In a flash of inspiration back in 2003, Ellen Rosenblum, then a circuit court judge, mentioned at a Courthouse Connection brown bag lunch that the women at the Coffee Creek Correctional Facility (CCCF) needed books, particularly ones they could share during visits with their children, and Cecil Reniche-Smith volunteered to start a book drive. At first, Cecil personally visited homes and offices in search of books, but this task proved to be time-consuming and yielded few suitable books. The next year, Aukjen Ingraham signed on to assist, and these two coordinators requested that people drop off their used books. Without firm guidelines for the condition and type of books, however, the coordinators received hundreds of books in such poor condition that they had to be recycled.

By the third year, the idea had spread to the OWLS membership, who helped collect books at their homes and offices, and then turned them over to the coordinators for sorting and delivery to CCCF. In 2006, the fourth year of the drive, OWLS members collected about 2,600 books, and with a strict set of screening guidelines for appropriate quality and content, only a few boxes of books were deemed unsuitable.

From these humble beginnings, the OWLS Coffee Creek Correctional Facility Book Drive has become a well-established annual event. Each year in October, the OWLS book drive typically brings in 500 to 1,500 books, which are donated to CCCF, an Oregon Department of Corrections institution housing all the female

inmates in the state of Oregon's custody. CCCF maintains a general library of 7,500 titles, all of which are donated from the community. CCCF also uses the donated books for inmate education and parenting programs to encourage female inmates to bond with their children through reading.

In 2011, with a record 16 OWLS volunteer site coordinators throughout the state, the drive brought in more than 3,000 books, enabling the program to expand and donate books to FCI Sheridan, the only federal correctional institution in the state. Thanks to the diligent efforts of OWLS members, the drive received extraordinarily generous donations of high-quality used books from libraries, schools, and other sources.

The work didn't end at the conclusion of the donation period; each book was individually examined for security purposes, counted, and packaged for delivery to the institutions. Because of the large volume of books, they were delivered in smaller shipments over several weeks, giving the librarians time to screen and catalog the titles. Without the help of

my co-coordinator, Jennifer Hunking, as well as the efforts of the volunteer book-sorting team, these donations would not have been possible.

In November 2006, the Coffee Creek Correctional Facility recognized the value of the OWLS book drive by honoring Cecil Reniche-Smith with its "Volunteer of the Quarter" award. The superintendent's letter of commendation said, "Quality reading material gives inmates a positive way to spend their free time, increases their mental and educational capabilities, and expands their imagination."

With that thought in mind, organizing will soon commence for OWLS' 2012 book drive. Please start setting your books aside, and see the OWLS e-newsletter, listserve, or Facebook page for information about volunteers and book collection in the coming months.

The best ideas burn the brightest, and it is my hope that the OWLS book drive will continue for many years to come.

Amy Blake is a law clerk for Judge Robert E. Jones of the US District Court for the District of Oregon. She was the co-coordinator of the 2011 OWLS book drive.

Practicing Law in a Small Town

continued from page 12

tice have included making a house call to a homebound client (who was grateful that she would do such a thing) and helping a nonprofit with a great idea get organized as a tax-exempt organization and then helping it pursue its goals. Besides practicing law, Barbara likes to garden, read, camp, hike, and canoe.

OWLS thanks Kittee, Michele, and Barbara for their thoughts about their practices and wishes them all the best in the future.

Teresa Statler practices immigration law in Portland.

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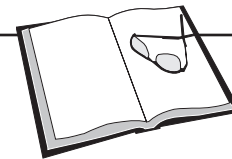
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Pitch Like a Girl: How a Woman Can Be Herself and Still Succeed

By Ronna Lichtenberg (Rodale, 2005, 346 pages)

Book Review by Julia Waco



At a time when so many of us are stepping into new positions and larger leadership roles, we could use some insight into how to best promote ourselves and ask for what we want. *Pitch Like a Girl* tells us how to get what we want in our professional lives by bringing more of our essence into what we do each day.

Author Ronna Lichtenberg, president of Clear Peak, a management consulting firm she founded after a career as director of marketing for Prudential Securities, explains: "A pitch is using your . . . skills and powers of persuasion to get people to do what you want them to do. Pitching is about enlisting someone's support for your goals. It's about figuring out what you really want, feeling comfortable asking for it, and then drawing on a neglected source of power to achieve it."

Pitching like a girl means "to use your natural powers of influence and persuasion to gain support for what you want, and . . . doing it your way, by incorporating the desire for connection

into transaction. It means doing it in a way that isn't about creating advantage but about creating connection." For Lichtenberg, the essence of a girl's pitch is effectively communicating what you have to offer and how that will benefit the other person at the same time. She emphasizes that as women we are naturally good at this, and it is powerful to apply this form of benefit thinking in a purposeful way.

The author is a career development professional, a contributing editor to *O, The Oprah Magazine*, and a graduate of Harvard Business School's Advanced Management Program. She begins this book by describing biological and psychological foundations for two different communication styles, found in both men and women. She helps us explore truths and strengths in both biology and stereotypes, and then challenges these by showing us how to act purposefully in tune with our nature and move beyond self-limiting beliefs.

Lichtenberg offers practical steps to

help us envision what our work life could be. She explains how to target, tailor, and cultivate our prospects and how to identify and read people to achieve mutually beneficial goals, and by doing so, to honor our dreams.

Chapters cover harnessing our innate communication styles to promote our interests, finding and conveying the passion to our pitches, locating our energy drains and restoring our drive, effectively researching the needs of our audience, pricing and packaging ourselves, and using our innate skills to effectively close the deal. As the author claims, "Within you lies a champion." The tips in her book give that inner champion in all of us what she needs to win, her way.

Julia Waco is a local Portland artist and manages the bankruptcy and foreclosure litigation for a national financial services company. She thanks Melissa Chureau for recommending this helpful guide to channeling the best of who we are into what we do.

Meet Kendra Matthews, OWLS' Secretary

By Megan Lemire

Kendra Matthews currently serves as OWLS' secretary. She first became active in OWLS in 2003, when she worked on the Roberts-Deiz Awards Dinner committee. She learned through that experience how rewarding active volunteering can be, in part because "you meet so many incredible women lawyers who offer inspiration, professional advice, and friendship."

After working on the dinner committee for six years, and serving as its chair and co-chair, Kendra joined the OWLS board in spring 2009. She later served as OWLS' historian before being elected secretary, and she continues to find it immensely rewarding to participate in OWLS' programs to support and advance women and minorities in the legal profession.

Kendra is a partner at Ransom Blackman, which she joined as an associate in 1998. She and the firm do criminal defense work and also represent professionals who are facing disciplinary proceedings before licensing boards. A substantial focus of Kendra's practice is

appellate litigation, which, she says, has always been her passion.

Kendra grew up in Evergreen, Colorado. She went to the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Washington, where she earned a BA in American politics and government in 1993. After earning a JD at Georgetown University Law Center, she moved to Oregon for a two-year clerkship with Judge Rex Armstrong at the Oregon Court of Appeals. From there, she joined Ransom Blackman.

Kendra has been a member of the Gus J. Solomon Inn of Court since 2004 and a member of the ACLU of Oregon's lawyers' committee since 2006. She is an avid reader and also likes to play volleyball and kickball.

Toward the end of her clerkship, Kendra knew she wanted to work in Portland, but was not sure about the type of law she wanted to practice. Judge Armstrong advised her to find a place where she could do "interesting things with interesting people." Albeit reluctantly—she had significant student loans—Kendra em-

braced his advice, which led her to lunch with Marc Blackman and John Ransom. She learned that they were "lawyers who specialize in representing people who find themselves at odds with the government"—

indeed, interesting people doing interesting things. She has worked with them ever since.

Now when young lawyers ask Kendra for advice, she shares Judge Armstrong's words, because she believes that despite these difficult economic times, "if a person focuses her career on doing 'interesting things with interesting people,' (and what is interesting is different for every person), professional success and satisfaction will follow."



Kendra Matthews

Fifth Annual Retreat Renews Women Lawyers

By Meloney Crawford

In 2008, it started with an inspiration. OAAP Attorney Counselors Shari Gregory and Meloney Crawford were brainstorming about programming for the year to come, and it occurred to them that among the lawyers participating in the Oregon Attorney Assistance Program's groups and events, one group was particularly hard working, yet perhaps underserved: women lawyers.

Shari and Meloney tested the waters by sending a survey to women lawyers in Oregon, asking if there was an interest in a retreat for women lawyers, and asking about topics, whether CLE credit should be available, and how long the event should run. Based on the responses, the first Women's Wellness Retreat, with the theme "Relax, Renew and Recharge," was held in the spring of that year. It began on a Friday afternoon and ended midday Saturday, so participants could spend part of the weekend at home before returning to work on Monday. It was an experiment, but one that proved to be very successful.

Five years later, we can say that the Annual Women's Wellness Retreat for Lawyers, co-sponsored by OWLS, has become an institution, covering themes such as "Blending a Balanced Life" and "Creating Connections." This year's retreat was held at the Resort at the Mountain in Welches, which is about 45 minutes from Portland but seems much further away, among rolling hills and old growth forest. This year's theme was "Renewing Your Dreams." Minds and bodies were refreshed and renewed, as well as dreams and aspirations.

At lunch on Friday, April 27, participants were welcomed by OAAP Assistant Director Shari Gregory and OAAP Attorney Counselor Meloney Crawford, who announced the icebreaker: a "human scavenger hunt" that proved to be so popular last year. The same format was repeated with different questions, and the room buzzed as women sought to complete a grid of "fascinating women attorneys"—who had written books, lived in both the country and the city, played a musical instrument, or wants to get a tattoo.

After a break to allow people to check into their rooms, programming began with lawyer and life transition coach Kirsten Meneghello, who talked about discovering passion and purpose in your

career, expanding a spark of enthusiasm into a passionate fire.

A break followed, allowing some free time for hikes, naps, or spa treatments, followed by dinner, which was filled with conversation about the theme of the retreat—when have we followed our dreams? What happened when we did, or didn't, and why? The evening came to a serene close with restorative relaxation exercises, led by Heather Decker.

Saturday began with a breakfast buffet that accommodated early and late risers alike. Then Nancie Potter—a former trial lawyer, now a marriage and family counselor—talked about the importance of listening to the message in our heart, and how heeding our innermost desires is linked to a spiritual connection, whether to an ultimate reality, to others, or to nature.

After a short break, Virginia Terhaar, who has presented at every Women's Wellness Retreat since 2008, discussed how to develop relationships that help us pursue our dreams, making our heart's desire a reality.

Later, Jillayne Sorensen, a licensed psychologist who specializes in mindfulness and mindful movement practices for healthy stress reduction, conducted an exercise on mindful movement, allowing the participants an opportunity to embody their dreams while being fully present in the moment.

Afterwards, it was surprising to realize that we had reached the retreat's conclusion. Gathering in a closing circle, we joined hands as each of us shared a word that described our retreat experience. Sharing, renewal, inspiration, and connection were a few of the words mentioned.

By midday Saturday, we had concluded the Fifth Annual Women's Wellness Retreat for Lawyers and were on our way to home and family with a sense of renewal, as well as the knowledge that we had participated in a tradition that will continue for years to come.

Meloney Crawford is an attorney counselor with the Oregon Attorney Assistance Program in Portland.



"Your Honor, my client is suing TV for making him stupid."

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OWLS Dragonflies Win Bronze at Rose Festival Races

By Mary Dougherty

On June 9 and 10, the OWLS Dragonflies competed in the Portland-Kaohsiung Sister City Association Dragon Boat Races on the Willamette River in Portland, a Portland Rose Festival event. The 'Flies had a great day on Saturday, earning the best possible score of two points by finishing first in Rounds 1 and 2. On Sunday, the 'Flies started the day seeded third out of 22 women's teams, based on points and combined race times from Saturday.

Our quarterfinal race, on Sunday, was tough because the 'Flies drew lane 4, and it has a tricky current that pulls the boat off course and requires more steering, which creates drag. Lane 4 was no match for the 'Flies, however, who finished in third place, posting the fastest time for a women's team from lane 4 during the quarterfinal round, and advanced to the semifinals.

In the semifinals, the 'Flies caught fire and, for a third time, finished in first place at these 2012 Portland Rose Festival Races. Finals were decided by a margin of less than 3.5 seconds between the four boats, in a double photo finish. At the

line, the 'Flies captured the flag with a time of 2:57:01 to become your 2012 Women's Division 1 bronze medal winners.

We thank our coach, Laura Ricker; our generous sponsors; and all the OWLS friends who came out to watch the races. The OWLS Dragonflies will race again locally in the Portland Dragon Boat Races, to be held on September 8 and 9 at Tom McCall Waterfront Park. Please save the dates and come see the 'Flies in action! More information is available at www.owlsdragonflies.org.

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Photo by William C. Henderson

The OWLS Dragonflies win a qualifying race on June 9.



Beth Allen brought her kids Suraj (left) and Beau CressAllen to the Take Your Kids to Work Day at the Multnomah County Circuit Court, co-sponsored by OWLS and held this year on April 26. OWLS thanks Judge Julie Frantz for organizing this annual event with her colleagues.