

CCWBA

Collier County Women's Bar Association

THE JUSTITIA

COLLIER COUNTY WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION, INC.

FALL 2004

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By: *Jeanne L. Seewald*

Fall has definitely arrived in Collier County and it has been an active season for CCWBA. In September, we held our Third Annual Joint Fall Reception with the Lee County Association of Women Lawyers. There were approximately 60 attendees including several judges from Collier County and Lee County. It again proved to be a great opportunity to meet attorneys from Lee County. The event was sponsored by LexisNexis and hosted by Northern Trust Bank in Bonita Springs. We appreciate their continued support of this annual event.

In October, CCWBA held a joint meeting with the Collier County Bar Association. Our speaker was Kelly Overstreet Johnson, President of The Florida Bar. Kelly provided an update on The Florida Bar and discussed several projects that she is promoting during her presidency. It was a huge effort on Kelly's part to come to Collier County. She flew from Tallahassee to Fort Lauderdale, then rented a car and drove to Naples. She is very interested in reaching out to attorneys in all parts of the state. We can all be proud to have Kelly representing us as president of the state bar.

We are working on planning another joint event with the Collier County Bar. We hope to have Chief Justice Pariente of the Florida Supreme Court in Naples for a lunch meeting on February 18, 2005. The location of the event has not been determined yet, but we will send an announcement via email as soon as the details are confirmed.

A new project will begin in January to benefit The Shelter for Abused Women and Children. CCWBA will be collecting used

cell phones. The cell phones will either be provided to victims at The Shelter or will be donated to an organization that provides The Shelter with \$25.00 for every cell phone donated. Additional information about this project will be coming in January. Please keep this project in mind. It is a great way to dispose of used cell phones and simultaneously help victims of domestic violence.

We also are working on the Breakfast and Books project with the Florida Association of Women Lawyers (FAWL). Jacqueline Buyze is coordinating this project for FAWL throughout the State of Florida. This project benefits the PACE Centers for Girls and provides young women with an opportunity for a better future through improved literacy and self-esteem. The project goal is to support PACE centers throughout the state by organizing and training FAWL member-volunteers to act as mentors, and by obtaining and providing books for the student mentees. If you are interested in participating, please contact Jacqueline at 514-1000.

Finally, CCWBA is very proud to announce that Tara Miller Dane has been selected as the 2004 Woman Lawyer of the Year. Please see page 2 for more information about Tara. This award will be presented at our annual Holiday Party which will be held on Wednesday, December 8 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at The Terraces (4751 Gulfshore Boulevard North - 1 mile north of Venetian Village). We hope you all will attend for the presentation of this annual award. Congratulations, Tara!

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TARA MILLER DANE NAMED WOMAN LAWYER OF THE YEAR

CCWBA recently announced that Tara Miller Dane has been selected as the 2004 Woman Lawyer of the Year. The award will be presented to Tara at the annual holiday party on December 8, 2004 (see upcoming events below). Tara has lived in Collier County for over 40 years. She began practicing law in Collier County in 1980 and maintained her own law practice for several years as a family law attorney. She was widely recognized as one of the top divorce lawyers in Naples. In 1991, she took a sabbatical from the practice of law to raise her children. Then, in 1996, she

established Tara Miller Dane Mediation Services. She currently maintains a successful mediation practice involving all types of civil litigation and family matters.

Tara first attended Choate/Rosemary Hall School in Wallingford, Connecticut, and then Duke University where she graduated magna cum laude in 1977. She received her juris doctorate degree in 1980 from the University of Miami School of Law. She is a member of the Florida Academy of Professional Mediators, The Florida Bar, the

Academy of Trial Lawyers, and the Association of Trial Lawyers of America. She has been a member of the Collier County Bar Association since 1980 and has served as treasurer and member of the Board of Directors. Tara speaks fluent spanish and holds an AV rating from Martindale Hubbell.



Tara Miller Dane

NEW SPECIAL LICENSE PLATE OF THE FLORIDA BAR FOUNDATION

“Kids Deserve Justice” is an authorized Florida automobile specialty license plate that is expected to generate tax-deductible contributions to provide legal assistance to needy Florida children. The funds generated from sales will go to The Florida Bar Foundation, a 501(c)(3) public charity, which will use 100% of the funds to provide legal assistance to needy children. The plates will be available in early 2005. To purchase your plate, you can pay \$25 per year



at your regular license plate renewal time. If you want the plate before your regular renewal, there's an additional one-time charge of \$18 that goes to the state. You can pledge to purchase the plate by downloading the pledge form under "For The Children" at www.flabar.org and faxing it to the Florida Bar Foundation (407) 839-0287. The Foundation will send you a notice when the tags are ready. For more information, visit www.flabar.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- December 8** Holiday Reception - The Terraces
4751 Gulf Shore Blvd. North, Naples
5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

- January 26** General Master Lawrence Pivacek
Collier County Circuit Court
“Update on the General Master’s Office”

- February 18** Joint Lunch Meeting with CCBA
Chief Justice Barbara Pariente
Location to be determined.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Angela M. Miller (formerly Villanueva) of The Livingston Firm married Tim Miller on October 3rd at Gulf Harbour Yacht & Country Club in Ft. Myers, Florida. The couple met while Angela was attending Mercer Law School in Georgia. Angela is a registered patent attorney and Tim is an irrigation technician supervisor at Landscape Florida.

A silent auction to benefit the PACE Centers for Girls will be held at the December 8th Holiday Party. Bring your checkbooks and support PACE.

JOINT BAR MEETING WELCOMES PRESIDENT OF THE FLORIDA BAR

On October 27, 2004, Kelly Overstreet Johnson, President of The Florida Bar, spoke to a joint meeting of the Collier County Women's Bar Association, Inc. and the Collier County Bar Association. Ms. Johnson provided an update on The Florida Bar which qualified for one hour of CLE credit for each attendee. Ms. Johnson is a partner with Broad and Cassel in Tallahassee. She began practicing in Florida in 1982 after graduating from Florida State University College of Law. She joined Broad and Cassel in 1990 in its commercial litigation, dispute resolution and labor and employment departments. In 1984-85, she served as President of the Tallahassee Women Lawyers and, in 1990, became the first female president of the Tallahassee Bar Association. She has served on the Board of Governors of The Florida Bar since 1997. In addition, she served on the American Bar Associations House of Delegates in 1992-94 and in 2003-present. In 2004, she was elected President of The Florida Bar. Ms. Johnson is married to Hal Johnson, General Counsel for the Florida Police Benevolent Association, and they have twin three year-old daughters. Her goals for

her presidency are to promote independent judicial nominating commissions and create adequate funding mechanisms for our courts.



Pictured from left to right: Jeanne Seewald, President CCWBA; Kelly Overstreet Johnson; and Jean Rawson, President-Elect CCBA.

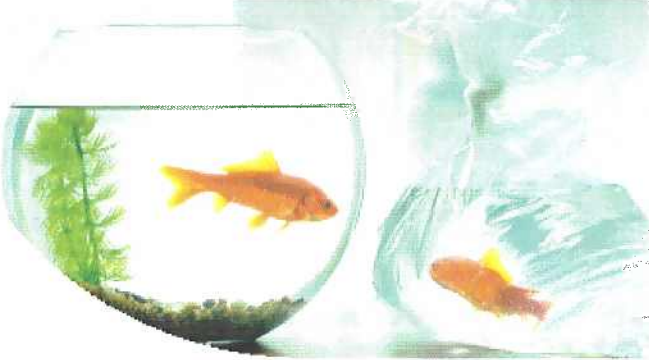


Pictured with Kelly Overstreet Johnson are CCWBA board members from left to right: Arlene Austin, Jeanne Seewald, Ms. Johnson, Jacqueline Buyze, and Jeanette Lombardi.

CELL PHONE DRIVE

Beginning in January, CCWBA will be sponsoring a Cell Phone Drive to benefit the Shelter for Abused Women and Children. Each cell phone donated will either be provided by the Shelter to victims of domestic violence or will be forwarded to a company that pays the Shelter \$25.00 for each phone and disposes of the phones in an environmentally safe manner. Keep this project in mind over the holidays and tell your family and friends. Please consider donating your cell phones for a safer environment and make a difference!


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