



Queen's Bench

Founded 1921

Queen's Bench Bar Association
of the San Francisco Bay Area

NEWSLETTER

May 2007

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Have you made a business referral to a Queen's Bench member today?

by Felicia Vallera

I was wracking my brain for a topic for this month's President's Message, when my beautiful new 2007 Queen's Bench Members'



Directory arrived in the mail! What a treasure these pages hold!

First I was excited just because it's so darned BIG! Queen's Bench membership is on an upward trend once again this year. We already have 300 enrolled members at the date of this message, more than a 10% increase over our membership numbers at this same time last year. The word just seems to keep spreading that Queen's Bench has something magical going on these days, and everyone wants to become a part of it.

My favorite part of the directory, however, is the last thirteen pages. This is the section that lists all Queen's Bench members categorized by practice specialty. For years, it has been a delight for me to get familiar with that section of our directory, and pursue a personal goal of always referring potential new business to a Queen's Bench member FIRST. When a student in one of my workshops at the SBA asks for help with complicated trademark registration problems, I pull out my Queen's Bench Members' Directory to give him some trademark

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Gonzales v. Carhart: Erosion of the Tenets of *Roe v. Wade*?

by Elizabeth Saviano and Christy Bonner
Co-Chairs, Reproductive Rights and Legislative Committee

Supreme Court Decides to Uphold the Federal Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act

The Supreme Court's decision in *Gonzales v. Carhart, et.al.* [No.05-380 and 05-1382] on April 18, 2007 upheld the Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act by a 5-4 vote. The law, which bars some abortions after 12 weeks may now become effective within weeks. Prior to the Court's decision, the federal law had been enjoined by successful legal challenges for more than three years. Three federal District Courts have held the law to be unconstitutional because it includes no clear exception for protecting the health of the pregnant woman. The Court's decision to uphold the federal abortion law reverses a precedent set more than three decades ago, and repeatedly affirmed by the Court, that requires restrictions on abortion to make exceptions to protect a woman's health.

In his decision in *Gonzales v. Carhart*, Justice Anthony Kennedy held that the Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act does not violate the constitutional right to abortion laid out in *Roe v. Wade*, 410 U.S. 113 (1973) that safeguarded abortion as part of a woman's constitutional right to privacy, or in *Planned Parenthood of Southeastern Pennsylvania v. Casey*, 505 U.S. 833 (1992) that maintained the fundamental right to abortion but upheld restrictions on abortion as long as the law included protec-

tions for women's life and health. He maintained that the federal law did not place an "undue burden" on women's ability to exercise their rights prior to the ability of a fetus to survive outside the womb. While the decision does not foreclose a future constitutional challenge to the federal law, as a "proper as-applied challenge in a discrete case," the Court offered no hint as to what such a challenge would look like.

Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, the sole woman on the Court, uncharacteristically delivered a scathing dissent from the bench. She denounced the decision as an attack on women's health and a significant reversal of legal precedent. Joined by Justices Stevens, Souter and Breyer in her written dissent Justice Ginsburg wrote: "Today's decision is alarming. ... It tolerates, indeed applauds, federal intervention to ban nationwide a procedure found necessary and proper in certain cases by the American

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Gonzales v. Carhart

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College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) ... for the first time since *Roe*, the Court blesses a prohibition with no exception safeguarding a woman's health." She summarized her thoughts of the Court's assertion that it was furthering a legitimate government interest in promoting and preserving fetal life by stating that "[t]he Act, and the Court's defense of it, cannot be understood as anything other than an effort to chip away at a right declared again and again by this Court- and with the increasing comprehension of its centrality to women's lives." She concluded that the notion that the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act furthers any legitimate governmental interest is "quite simply, irrational."

The Lawsuit

Immediately after Bush signed the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act into law into 2003, three lawsuits—in New York, San Francisco and Nebraska—challenged its constitutionality. The [Planned Parenthood Federation of America](#), the [American Civil Liberties Union](#) on behalf of the [National Abortion Federation](#), and the [Center for Reproductive Rights](#) on behalf of four abortion providers, including Nebraska physician Leroy Carhart, filed lawsuits alleging that the law is unconstitutional because of the absence of an exception for procedures performed to protect the health of the pregnant woman. All three district courts held the law unconstitutional, rulings that were upheld in three federal appeals courts. The Court granted certiorari in two cases. *See Carhart v. Gonzales* 413 F.3d 791(2005 8th Circ.); *Planned Parenthood Federation of Am. v. Gonzales* 435 F.3d 1163(2006 9th Circ.).

Partial-Birth Abortion Ban

President George W. Bush signed the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act [P.L. 108-05] into law in November 2003. Senate Bill 3 added Section 1531 to Title 18 of the United States Code. Section 1531 prohibits a physician from knowingly performing a "partial-birth abortion" (medically termed intact dilation and evacuation ["D&E"]) that "kills a human fetus." The Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act was modeled on a Nebraska state law. The ban criminalizes a specific late term abortion procedure subjecting the person convicted of performing the procedure to a fine and/or imprisonment, and possible civil damages.

The crime of performing "partial-birth abortion," as the term is used in the statute, contains two elements. To be convicted of the crime, the person performing the abortion 1) "deliberately and intentionally vaginally delivers a living fetus until, in the case of a head-first presentation, the entire fetal head is outside the body of the mother, or, in the case of breech presentation, any part of the fetal trunk past the navel is outside the body of the mother, for the purpose of performing an overt act that the

person knows will kill the partially delivered living fetus," and 2) "performs the overt act, other than completion of delivery, that kills the partially delivered living fetus."

Section 1531 does not apply to a partial-birth abortion that is necessary "to save the life of a mother" whose life is endangered by a physical disorder, physical illness, or physical injury, including a life-endangering physical condition caused by or arising from the pregnancy itself. By its vagueness in using the lexicon of parentage to describe the proscription and available civil remedies, and by providing an exception to save the life of a mother, the statute does not clearly provide a health exception for a pregnant woman. A woman upon whom a "partial birth abortion" is performed may not be prosecuted under the statute.

Congress passed the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act as a direct challenge to the Supreme Court's 2000 ruling in *Stenberg v. Carhart*, 530 U.S. 914 (2000), a case that scrutinized the Nebraska ban. In that ruling, also decided by a 5-4 vote, the justices cited the law's lack of a health exception for the woman and its vague wording. At the time, Justice Kennedy was in the minority on the Court. In his dissenting opinion he argued that the Nebraska ban did not pose an "undue burden" on women seeking abortions and rejected the notion that all abortion restrictions must require health exceptions. Kennedy stuck to that reasoning in his majority opinion in *Gonzales v. Carhart*.

Implications for *Roe v. Wade*

The decision in *Gonzales v. Carhart*, et.al. does not overturn *Roe v. Wade*. Abortion, including certain procedures to carry out late term abortion, remains legal in many states including California. However, pro choice organizations and physician groups are among a cadre of advocates who have expressed outrage and dismay over the Court's decision. In a press release about the decision, ACOG stated: "Today's decision to uphold the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act of 2003 is shameful and incomprehensible to those of us who have dedicated our lives to caring for women.... It leaves no doubt that women's health in America is perceived as being of little consequence."

Justice Ginsburg, in her dissent, cautioned that since the Court is not actually protecting the life of a fetus through this ruling, but rather restricting the options available to obtain an abortion, it is hard to see how the Court's "moral concerns" over the methodology used do not open the door to ban other types of procedures that also create a "moral concern." Given the new precedent the decision sets, pro choice advocates fear that this will unleash a wave of new bills at the state and federal level attempting to further restrict abortion.

Implications for Women's Health

Approximately 85 – 90% of all abortions are conducted during the first trimester. Women who are most likely to

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Gonzales v. Carhart

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undergo a late term abortion are indigent adolescents who may lack the education and/or financial resources to seek abortion earlier in the pregnancy. A smaller percentage of late term abortions are performed to assist women who choose not to continue their pregnancies due to severe fetal anomalies or health problems facing the woman.

The Court's decision is bound to have a chilling effect on physicians who provide abortion services. In its amicus brief opposing the ban, ACOG argued that the Act will dissuade doctors from providing a wide range of procedures used to perform induced abortions or to treat cases of miscarriage and will gravely endanger the health of women in this country. Upholding the ban will likely further decrease access to medically necessary abortion services for some women as physicians may fear criminal prosecution for performing other abortion procedures, which are not the subject of the ban, if there is a possibility that these will result in accidentally intact D&E.

Justice Ginsberg pointed out in her dissent that while the medical evidence presented at trial showed that intact D&E is safer than non-intact D&E and other abortion late term procedures for some women, this appears to have been roundly ignored by both Congress and the Court. The ban on intact D&E may subject women who choose to undergo late term abortion to medical procedures that may be more dangerous to their health. Lack of access to safe late term abortion procedures exposes women to undue health risks. Justice Ginsberg stated: "... the Court deprives women of the right to make an autonomous choice, even at the expense of their safety."

Although the Court's majority worried about the negative impact on the mental health of women who undergo abortion, using the arguments that women possess a fragile emotional state during pregnancy and have a "bond of love" with the unborn fetus, Justice Ginsburg pointed out that not all pregnancies are wanted or even the product of consensual activity. She charged that the Court's way of thinking reflects ancient notions about women's place in the family and under the Constitution—"ideas that have long since been discredited."

Summary

The Supreme Court opinion can be found at: www.supremecourt.us/opinions/06pdf/05-380.pdf. The implication of this decision for women is not confined only to the potential negative impact on women's physical and mental health. The Court's decision to uphold the Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act is a significant departure from the Court's prior decisions to uphold a women's fundamental right to choose her own destiny in reproductive matters.

President's Message

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attorney names. When my neighbor stops me in the hallway of our apartment building asking for the name of an employment attorney for her sister, I call her from the office as soon as I am able to consult the labor and employment law section my trusty QB Members' Directory. And when a valued client is finally persuaded to create a long overdue personal estate plan, I pick up the phone to connect her with a Queen's Bench trust and estates attorney I know I can count on to take very good care of her.

The Queen's Bench Members' Directory came to my rescue again last week, when I received an interesting last minute phone call from a diplomatic officer affiliated with the United States Department of State. The request: a delegation of women intellectual property attorneys from Chile was going to be visiting San Francisco, and wanted to meet with Queen's Bench representatives to discuss women's issues and intellectual property law issues during their visit. I just let my fingers do the walking through the intellectual property law section of our new Queen's Bench Members' Directory, and very shortly had a small group of Queen's Bench intellectual property attorneys lined up for afternoon tea with the State Department delegation in my office!

When your copy of the Queen's Bench Members' Directory arrives, be sure to keep it close at hand in a safe place, because I hope you will also use it for good things very frequently. When we took our last full scope Members' Survey in 2004, most of our members gave "business networking" and "cross-referral opportunities" as one of the top reasons for their involvement in Queen's Bench. I know many long-time Queen's Bench members who have built enormously successful cross-referral networks, almost "virtual law firms", across different practice specialty areas with fellow Queen's Bench members over the years. Cross-referral support to women trying to build an independent law practices, or trying to build a partnership-caliber book of business in a larger law firm, is one aspect of Queen's Bench that directly supports our fight to retain women in the legal profession! **Please consider if, all other things being equal, you are able to support your fellow Queen's Bench members by referring potential business to a Queen's Bench member FIRST?**

Kudos and thanks to Second Vice President and Membership Chair Barbara Harris Chiang and Queen's Bench Administrator Maurine Killough for a terrific job with the 2007 Members' Directory. Happy networking, everyone!

San Francisco Law Library Services

By Ruth Goldstein, Reference Librarian, San Francisco Law Library

While perhaps we all have passwords to Lexis and Westlaw, there are even more and—believe it or not—sometimes better resources that can assist, and even cut to the chase, for San Francisco practitioners. The San Francisco Law Library, the oldest public law library in the State of California, and the second largest, can be a formidable ally in the constant research, work, education, and analysis that every attorney undertakes—and usually, under the shadow of a deadline.

Of course, the law library has books: a complete and circulating collection of all the core materials and secondary sources such as the Rutter Group, CEB, and other essential guides to California law, along with the broader range of materials for recurring legal subject matter and forms in American law, from real property to domestic partnerships, trial practice, transactional work, and law practice management. The law library catalog is on-line as part of the San Francisco Law Library website, at www.sfgov.org/sfl.

All attorneys are welcome to use the library, and those who live or work in San Francisco are further entitled to circulation privileges, to come in, browse, and check out what they like. Getting back, however, to the constant issue of time, the library also allows firms to call in advance for materials, have the materials pulled from the shelf, checked out to the firm account, and readied for a courier or bike messenger pickup. In other words, this can be done from your desk to our reference desk.

For solo practitioners to firms with fewer than 10 attorneys, this is a free program maintained for the benefit of these San Francisco practices. Larger firms may subscribe at a modest yearly fee. For more information on how to make use of this service and to enroll in our Solo and Small Firm Membership program, or our ILL program for larger firms, please contact me at 415: 554-6842, or ruth.goldstein@sfgov.org.

Our collection certainly does include electronic resources, including the CD-ROMs that complement CEB, Rutter Group, and other legal publisher's materials, often containing the form collection for the set. These may be borrowed as well. The library also offers free use of Westlaw, Shepard's, Fastcase, and most recently, HeinOnLine, a

superb PDF archive of law reviews, a historical Federal Register database, Federal legislative history sources, and many other useful contents.

For attorneys managing the business of their own practices or contemplating starting their own, the law library also has a specific collection of law practice management materials, on such topics as client relations [see for example: *Lawyers are from Mercury, Clients are from Pluto*] to the very inclusive and practical foundations of *Law Office Procedures Manual for Solos and Small Firms* [with CD-Rom] and the 4 volume set of *The Essential Formbook*, addressing everything from calendar, docket, and file organization to the newer concerns around disaster management.

While we cannot go so far as to do your research for you, we do offer to you the combined knowledge base of the San Francisco Law Library reference staff. We invite you to call us with questions and quandaries at 554-6821. As reference librarians, we can and do think about the issues you may bring to us, so that we suggest or propose sources on where to go first and where to go for more. Since the application of the law as well as the facts seems to gravitate towards the new and undefined, we are glad to compare notes and think about what we could propose, either within our collection or beyond. If we don't have some particular text in our collection, we can try to find it elsewhere, or borrow it from another institution for your use.

Our director, Marcia Bell—who is also a Queen's Bench member—would also welcome your own sugges-

tions and recommendations for what materials and services would be useful to you. We would like to know. Please feel free to contact her at 554-6824, or marcia.bell@sfgov.org

We look forward to working with you and assisting in your practices, pro bono work, and all other aspects of work as a lawyer. The San Francisco Law Library has three locations: the largest of our libraries in Civic Center, a library with later hours in the Financial District, and a limited pocket library in the McAllister St. Courthouse—or four, if you consider the website, at www.sfgov.org/sfl as the portal into the whole.

San Francisco Law Library

www.sfgov.org/sfl

Civic Center

401 Van Ness, Room 400
Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Closed Weekends.
(415) 554-6821

Financial District Branch

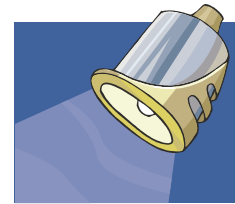
685 Market St., Suite 420
Monday – Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Friday & Saturday 9:00 to 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
(415) 882-9310

Courthouse Reference Room

400 McAllister Street, Room 512
Monday, Tuesday & Thursday
8:30 am. To 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday 8:30 - 12:30
Closed Daily 12:30 to 1:30
(415) 551-3647

Sophie-Nicole Froelich

This article is the third in an ongoing series profiling Queen's Bench members who serve as positive and inspiring role models for women in the legal profession.



This month's featured role model is Sophie-Nicole Froelich, who currently serves as a member of our Queen's Bench Board of Directors, and also Co-Chairs (with Virginia Sung) the Queen's Bench Business Development Committee that organizes the LEAADD (for women Lawyers, Engineers, Accountants, Architects, Doctors and Dentists) networking events. This is Sophie's third year on the Queen's Bench Board, and she previously served as Chair of the Queen's Bench Domestic Violence Committee. Sophie has the killer schedule and responsibilities of an active and successful trial litigator in a major law firm, but somehow manages to cheerfully welcome the entire Queen's Bench Board of Directors to use her office conference room as its 2007 home base, while juggling her Business Development Committee Co-Chair duties and making other leadership team contributions at the same time.



jury trial experience; and appellate experience. Ms. Froelich also advises clients on matters pertaining to the Federal Voting Rights Act, Propositions 218 and 13, water law, environmental health, safety, and products liability. She is also in great demand as a speaker, panelist, and author on these topics.

Prior to joining Nossaman, Ms. Froelich clerked for a federal district court judge in Nashville, Tennessee. A true New Yorker, Sophie earned her J.D. from New York University in 1999, and her B.A. from Barnard College of Columbia University in 1994 magna cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa. She is admitted to practice in California, in the United States District Courts for the Eastern, Central and Northern Districts of California, and in the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

In all her spare time, Sophie hangs out with her dog Charlie, escapes to tropical beaches whenever her demanding litigation calendar permits, and enjoys skiing, biking and other outdoor activities. Thank you, Sophie, for giving so much of yourself to Queen's Bench members and other women in the legal profession.

2007 Agnes O'Brien Smith Scholarship

The Queen's Bench Scholarship committee has chosen two wonderful students at USF Law School for the 2007 Agnes O'Brien Smith Scholarship. The committee consisted of the following Queen's Bench members: Adrienne Jacobs Miller, Rebecca Hooley, Ameer Mikachich, Sophie-Nicole Froelich, Harjit K. Sull, and Mia Otilia Solvesson. The committee reviewed 23 scholarship applications and interviewed the top six applicants. The recipients are: **PAMELA LOUIE** and **DAVID RAYNOR**. PAMELA is a second year law student with experience in mediation and litigation. After undergraduate studies at University of California, Berkeley she worked as a legal assistant for the senior partner at Manning & Marder, Kass, Ellrod, Ramirez, LLP in San Francisco. Prior to law school she also worked for Bank of America as a customer service liaison while attending UC Berkeley. PAMELA is a recipient of many awards for her legal research writing and analysis and was a staff editor for the Journal of Law and Social Challenges at USF. She is also a tutor for the academic support program and a mentor for the Asian Pacific American Law Student Association. PAMELA is proficient in Cantonese, has a black belt in Taekwondo and is a member of the Absolute Dragons Dragon Boating Racing Team which has traveled to China and all over the

United States. DAVID is a first year law student in the top 5% of his class. He has received numerous awards for scholarship. He is also a member of the Public Interest Law Foundation and received the Fundraising Award in 2006. DAVID graduated from Antioch College in Yellow Springs, OH in 1998 with a BA in Social and Global Studies. He is also a graduate of the Simon's Rock of Bard College, Great Barrington, MA. DAVID had extensive business experience prior to attending law school. He launched and built his own HR consulting firm specializing in Telecommunications, Centaur Consulting of New York, NY until September 11, 2001. After 9/11 DAVID worked with the Family Assistance Center in New York and provided Spanish translation and interpretation assistance for victims of the World Trade Center disaster. In September 2005 after moving to the bay area, he volunteered with the American Red Cross as a client service center manager for the victims of Hurricane Katrina. DAVID will be interning this summer in Viet Nam with a law firm working in international commerce and the World Trade Commission. DAVID is fluent in Spanish.

We are proud to honor these two outstanding law students and wish them both much success and happiness as they continue their law studies and begin their law careers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS ...

The Marketing and Communications Committee wants to interview Queen's Bench members!

How about you? We are going to pitch articles to legal publications and local news outlets to increase awareness about Queen's Bench. Do you practice in an area of law that is new or historically men or just a strange and interesting area? Are you a second career lawyer? Are you using your law degree in outside of the legal profession? Has your career path been twisted? We know Queen's Bench members are all interesting and talented people. If you are willing to be profiled, contact Ellen Brodbine, via Ellen@cuidigh.com or cell phone 415.640.3228.

May is QB Member Survey Month!

Please watch your e-mail for a short but very important electronic Queen's Bench Member Survey coming soon! The last time we did a full scope Queen's Bench Member Survey was 2004, and our membership has grown and changed quite a bit since then. This will be your opportunity to let us know why you joined Queen's Bench, and what kind of member services (programs, events, other support resources) are most valued and important to you. It will also be a chance for us to compile some important demographic information about our member base to help

us with service delivery logistics in the future. Please share your thoughts and preferences with us - it will only take a few minutes and mouse-clicks, we promise!

Queen's Bench Juvenile Hall Project Needs Your Help!

In addition to our continued search for volunteers, Queen's Bench Juvenile Hall Project needs arts and crafts donations. The girls and boys at the San Francisco Youth Guidance Center greatly benefit from the time and energy of our volunteers, as well as the arts and crafts projects we undertake with them. Because the number of youth who participate in the program has more than doubled recently, we need more help and more supplies. The following are supplies we could use: crayons, markers, paints and paint brushes, glitter, beads, sequins, acrylic 'gems,' colored pencils, wrapping paper, wax paper, tissue paper, glue, tape, felt, clean deli cups to store beads, magazines [car, hairstyles, teenager, fashion, science or home decorating] and age appropriate paperback [not hardcover] books for young boys or girls, packs of paper plates, paper cups, paper napkins, plastic 2 liter or 1 liter jugs of caffeine free soft drinks.

You can also help with a tax-deductible monetary contribution to Queen's Bench Foundation, a charitable organization which primarily funds the Juvenile Hall Project.

About the project: The Queen's Bench Juvenile Hall Project operates at the San Francisco Juvenile Hall at 375 Woodside Avenue (off Portola). We volunteer on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., in Unit #5 at Juvenile Hall. We provide companionship, conversation, arts & crafts activities, and informal mentoring to incarcerated girls and boys ranging in age from 11 to 17. These children have historically been subjected to violent victimization; they typically have low self-esteem and are fearful about their future. Along with our other arts & crafts, we will be creating a large mural for the Unit. We have various fund-raising events during the year, and will hold a silent auction in 2007 showcasing the children's artwork.

For donations or more information, please contact Patricia Bovan-Campbell, Juvenile Hall Project Chair, at Patricia.Bovan@Symantec.com or (415) 785-7660.

The Judges' Dinner is almost here!

Don't miss out on Queen's Bench Annual Judges' Dinner! Seats are selling fast. Join dozens of judicial officers, scores of QB members and our many other guests gathering for this flagship event. Our featured speaker is Kathleen Sullivan, a premier constitutional scholar, author, and recent dean of Stanford Law School, where she is now the Stanley Morrison Professor. She is sure to deliver an engaging message. Please see the enclosed flyer

QUEEN'S BENCH NEWSLETTER

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Queen's Bench "Transitions" Mixer Brings Many Spring Blessings

The five huge clothing bins in the lobby of The Law Office of Felicia Vallera stood empty on the morning of Thursday, April 19. By the time 8:30 p.m. rolled around that same night, they were full to overflowing with gently used women's suits, professional separates, shoes, briefcases, and new undergarments and cosmetics destined to help homeless women in San Francisco dress for success with job interviews, so that they could re-enter the workforce.

Over 50 current and prospective Queen's Bench members gathered for merriment and a higher purpose for the Queen's Bench "Transitions" spring networking mixer on April 19 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Felicia's office. Guests were welcomed at the door with strawberry champagne cocktails and delicious appetizers, provided courtesy of our generous event sponsors (see box below). The business cards were flying as attorneys mingled with litigation support experts, Queen's Bench Past Presidents and Committee Chairs schmoozed with new admittees and law students, and we signed up many new Queen's Bench members! All clothing donors were treated to a

Thanks to our "Transitions" Event Sponsors:

Howard Rice Nemerovski Canady Falk & Rabkin, LLP

Sonnenschein Nath & Rosenthal, LLP

Hemming Morse, Inc. – Forensic Accountants

LECG – Expert Legal Services

Announcements

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for more details, or contact the Queen's Bench administrator at (415) 249-9280 or queensbench@rcn.com, or see information at www.queensbench.org.

Queen's Bench Education Committee

This year, the Queen's Bench Education Committee will be hosting a series of programs on business development and marketing skills. Please watch for these upcoming events or consider participating on the Education Committee to help with planning and presenting these and other events. The Education Committee generally meets the first Wednesday of every month at 6 p.m. at Bingham McCutchen, located at Three Embarcadero Center, 28th Floor. Please contact kristen.pezone@bingham.com to confirm the date of the next meeting if you would like to attend. All are welcome.



QB Employment/Work-Life Balance Committee Chair Mary Topliff (right) enjoys a champagne cocktail with event sponsor Jenny O'Brien of Hemming Morse (left).

fun blind wine tasting of four excellent California central coast wines and clips from the movie "Sideways," courtesy of Dave Chambers of the Sideways Wine Club. And donors also were eligible for a raffle, featuring a prize of a \$50 gift certificate from the new Bristol Farms Market in the Westfield Center.

Donors arrived in a steady flow all evening with bags full of clothing donations, some even wheeled in piles of donations on carts and in suitcases! Everyone had a story about cleaning out the dreaded closet, although most thanked us for inciting them to do it! But the most touching story of the evening was the news we received about the efforts of the women law students at the University of San Francisco. After hearing about the Queen's Bench "Transitions" mixer clothing drive plans, these amazing young women organized their own pre-event clothing drive on the USF campus, and arrived at Felicia's office on the evening of April 19 with BOXES full of women's professional clothing to contribute to the Queen's Bench effort! The workers from the St. Anthony Foundation in the Tenderloin who cheerfully made three trips back and forth to their truck to load up all clothing bins for shipment the following morning said, "Wow, you folks made quite a haul!" Yes, we certainly did... and we had a great time in the process!

More Mixer photos on page 8 

The Women's Working Group on Universal Health cordially invites you to two exciting events: **Summit on Universal Healthcare** coming up on May 10 and **Women's Leadership, Education and Advocacy Day** on May 16. We hope you will join us! To learn more about the working group, or to register, please go to www.womenleadforhealth.org

Transitions Mixer

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Judge Eugene Hyman (left) enjoys the buffet with Queen's Bench Past President Patricia Rosenberg (center) and Queen's Bench Business Development Committee Co-Chair Virginia Sung (right).



USF women's law student leader Danielle Johnson draws the raffle winner from a basket held by Queen's Bench President Felicia Vallera.



USF Law School students line up in front of overflowing clothing bins.

Queen's Bench New Members

Please welcome the following new members who joined between March 30 and April 30, 2007:

- Emily St. John Cohen
Fenwick & West LLP
- Heather Abelson
O'Meleuny & Myers LLP
- Linda Joy Kattwinkel
Owen Wickersham & Erickson
- Allison Marrazzo
O'Melveny & Myers
- Maria V. Morris
Rosen Bien & Galvan
- Julie Nokleberg
Fenwick & West LLP
- Jennifer Perkell
California Attorney General's Office
- Lailah Salem
University of San Francisco, School of Law
- Michelle Scannell
USF Law School
- Danielle Stoumbos
- Kate Wolf



Blind tastings of California Central Coast wines were conducted by Dave Chambers of the Sideways Wine Club, second from left.

2007 COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND SPECIAL APPOINTMENTS

Amicus Briefs

Sarah King
Howard Rice Nemerovski Canady Falk & Rabkin, LLP
Three Embarcadero Center, Seventh Floor
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Awards

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Lisa Klotchman Rauch
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May

- 16** **Juvenile Hall Project**
7:00 p.m.
Decorate small boxes, and begin work on Unit Mural
- 17** **CWL 19th Annual Southern California Judicial Reception**
See enclosed flyer
- 24** **2007 Annual Judges Dinner**
Intercontinental Mark Hopkins (see enclosed flyer)

June

- 5** **Regular Board of Directors Meeting**
6:00 p.m.
Nossaman Guthner Knox Elliot LLP
50 California St., 34th Floor, San Francisco
- 6** **"Cocktails & Couture"**
See enclosed flyer
- 6** **Juvenile Hall Project**
7:00 p.m.
Make cards for the "Male in your life"

- 14** **QB Education Committee**
6:30 p.m.
MCLE program: "Work/Life Balance: A Panel Discussion On Time Norms In Law Firms, Effective Part-Time Programs And Real World Advice From Practitioners." Bingham McCutchen (see enclosed flyer)
- 20** **Juvenile Hall Project**
7:00 p.m.
Decorate Canvas tote bags
- 21** **QB Legislative Committee**
6:00 pm
MCLE program: "Influencing The Legislative Process: You Do Want To Know How Laws Are Made" Carroll Burdick & McDonough (see enclosed flyer)

August — Save the Date

- 9** **NCWBA Summit, Luncheon and 25th Anniversary Celebration**
See enclosed flyer



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Queen's Bench Newsletter

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