



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

77¢

By Sarah M. King

This past April 12 marked Equal Pay Day. The date symbolizes how far into the year the average woman had to work in order to earn what the average man had earned by the end of the previous year.



According to a recent report of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, overall, the ratio of women's to men's earnings was 81.2% in 2010.<sup>1</sup> This ratio is certainly better than the 59% ratio that existed when the Equal Pay Act was first enacted in 1963, but the pace of progress has slowed considerably since the 1990's. While the gender earnings ratio for annual income increased by 11.8 percentage points from 1980 to 1994, it grew by only five percentage points over the next 15 years. If this rate continues, it will take another 45 years to reach parity.<sup>2</sup>

The gender pay ratio varies by occupation, of course—and in four occupations, women finally came out on top. Specifically, in 2010, the gender pay ratio was inverse for food preparers and servers (112.1%), bill account collectors (109.5%), and stock clerks and order-fillers (105.1%). In all other occupations, however, women came

*continued, page 4*

<sup>1</sup> Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Spotlight on Statistics*, "Women at Work" (March 2011), published at: [www.bls.gov/spotlight/2011/women/](http://www.bls.gov/spotlight/2011/women/)

<sup>2</sup> Institute for Women's Policy Research, "The Gender Wage Gap: 2010" (April 2011).

## Queen's Bench 90th Anniversary/ Women's Legal History Lunch

By: Pauline Farmer-Koppenol

On April 7, we had a wonderful lunch celebrating women's legal history and 90 years of Queen's Bench. Prof. Barbara Babcock (Professor Emerita, Stanford Law School) spoke about the subject of her latest book, *Clara Foltz*, the first woman admitted to the California Bar. Clara Foltz was a single mother of five children when she started the study of law. She had to sue to be admitted to Hastings College of Law and then had to fight for passage of a bill in the California legislature that would allow women to be admitted to the California Bar. Prof. Babcock shared several anecdotes from Clara Foltz's life and brought her struggles to life for the audience. Prof. Babcock was kind enough to sign copies of her book before and after the event.

The second half of the event was a panel discussion about Queen's Bench. Panelists included Hon. Barbara J.R. Jones (Presiding Justice, California Court of Appeal, First Appellate District and 1983 QB President), Hon. Lee D. Baxter, Ret. (San Francisco Superior Court and 1981 QB President) and Hon. Ina Levin Gyemant, Ret. (San Francisco Superior Court and 1979 QB President). The panelists shared how Queen's Bench impacted their careers.



More history lunch photos on page 6

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Celebrating 90th Anniversary .....	2
Mildred Levin Scholarship .....	4
QB New Members .....	6
Announcements .....	8
Tea Party & Reproductive Rights .....	9
Calendar .....	10

# Celebrating the 90th Anniversary of Queen's Bench: 1946-1969

By Sarah M. King

2011 marks the 90th Anniversary of Queen's Bench. In celebration, we will present a series of articles chronicling the organization's history and accomplishments.

In many ways, World War II was a window of opportunity for women. As explained in a memo on women's legal history by QB 1967 President Marjorie M. Childs, with millions of men off to war, law schools were faced with the problem of keeping their doors open and many began to admit women. The dearth of men in the workforce also made it possible for more women to enter occupations traditionally held by men.

Queen's Bench membership expanded greatly during this time. From its founding in 1921 by 21 women, Queen's Bench was able to boast 175 members by 1953. During the 1950's and 60's, the basic structure of Queen's Bench crystallized.

Committees on Employment, Endorsements and Legislation, Membership, History, Bylaws, and Domestic Relations sound very similar to the ones we have today.

QB members gave educational talks on legal topics and CEB presentations to members and others—and even presented a series of television shows on KRON-Channel 4 in 1956 entitled “Your Rights Under the Law.”

The annual dinner with doctors and dentists that had originated in the 1930's was resurrected shortly after the WWII ended, and was expanded to include women engineers and architects in 1959—a precursor to our LEAADD Dinner today. QB's annual Judges' Dinner found its genesis in this period, as well, with annual dinners being held with judges in the East Bay during this time.

Queen's Bench awarded its first scholarship to a female law student in 1961. Other public service projects included efforts to preserve funding for adult education in the county jail, providing toiletries and clothing for women recently released from jail, and providing donations to a home for the rehabilitation of women.



QB Trio Charlotte Cohelan Danforth, Moira Ford and Mary Wales provide entertainment in at a 1952 BASF celebration, singing a humorous letter to the Committee of Bar Examiners to the tune of “When I Was a Lad” from *Pirates of Penzance*.

Despite its close resemblance to a women's bar association, Queen's Bench constantly emphasized in QB newsletters and BASF's “Brief Case” magazine that it was not. Its purpose was stated variously as “affording members a means of acquaintance with other women lawyers” while “stimulating interest” in legislation and in activities of the State Bar; “help[ing] women become good lawyers and to take an active role in the local bar association in whatever area we live[].” QB President Tommy Angell described QB's purposes in 1960 as “service to the profession, to the public, and to ourselves. The first are achieved by our participation in numerous civic and professional activities; the latter is a direct result of such participation.”

The search for the organization's identity nevertheless continued, with a 1954 notice polling member opinions on the subject: “Some members would like to see Q.B. take a more active role in Bar activities; others prefer to express themselves through their respective Bar Associations and to look on Q.B. as a social group. Our by-laws say we are organized for social activities, as well as to interest ourselves in legislative and Bar matters and to discuss our legal programs. What do you think?”

*continued, page 3*



In 1964, Tommy Angell (QB 1960 President) was one of 5 women fencers from the U.S. to participate in the XVIII Olympiad in Tokyo

## QB 90th Anniversary

Continued from page 2

The difficulty in formulating a description of the organization's purpose undoubtedly arose from the desire blend members' goals as professionals without abandoning their identity as women. The tension is reflected in the organization's activities. In addition to the professional activities described above, Queen's Bench undertook tasks that might traditionally have been delegated to lawyers' wives. During this period, Queen's Bench entertained numerous foreign visitors, and organized dinners, breakfasts and other social events for BASF, the State Bar Convention and the American Bar Association.

Newspaper coverage of the time suggests that even social participation by women in the predominantly legal establishment was an accomplishment. The title of a 1963 Recorder article lauds the growing importance of women to the State Bar Convention. Upon closer examination, however, the 15% "participation" amounted to little more than proximity. "Heading the feminine task force are our wonderful women judges and lawyers . . . [b]ut the solid rank and file are comprised of California attorneys' wives." The author notes that the wives had not come merely for "kicks," but to attentively watch "their legal eagles" as their husbands debated substantive legal issues.

Viewed from today's vantage point, the picture painted is bleak. Yet the author correctly points out that even this meager representation constituted progress—and Queen's Bench was in the vanguard. "When it was inaugurated way back in the 1920's, invitations [to the Bar Convention] specified 'men only.' In 1936, the San Francisco Bar Association and Queen's Bench contributed four of the first women delegates. With time, the number has grown and 1963 sees at least 20 female delegates from Southern and Northern California."<sup>1</sup>

Beginning in the mid-1960's, Queen's Bench began to advocate more directly for the advancement of women in the professional arena. In 1964, Queen's Bench sent a telegram to then-Governor Ronald Reagan "calling his attention to the lack of female representation on the bench." They provided a list of qualified women to the judicial nominations committee, including Janet Aitken, who was soon appointed to the Municipal Court.

In 1967, Queen's Bench hosted a discussion entitled "Room at the Top," which was attended by 150 women from 20 different professional women's associations. Queen's Bench invited representatives from Pacific Telephone & Telegraph and PG&E to honor their two highest-ranking female employees, and to discuss the advancement of women to executive positions. PT&T's highest-ranking women were

<sup>1</sup> Betty Brownlie, "Women Become Important to Legal Profession as Well as Bar Convention," *The Recorder*, Set. 24, 1963. By 1963, 2.6% of all lawyers in the U.S. were women. *Id.*



1953 QB President Ruth Church Gupta greets President Harry S. Truman



On August 6, 1969, QB 1951 President Agnes O'Brien Smith, QB 1975 President Jettie Pierce Selvig, Sen. Milton Marks, Sen. George Moscone, and QB 1953 President Ruth Church Gupta witnessed then-Governor Ronald Reagan declare Women Lawyers Centennial, in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the admission of America's first woman lawyer, Arabella Mansfield, to the Iowa Bar.

a General Accounting Personnel Supervisor, and a Treasury Methods Supervisor. The best that PG&E could offer was the Administrative Assistant to the President and a retired legal assistant from its law department.

According to the QB newsletter's description of the event, the PG&E representative "gave elaborate statistics to show that women received only a small percentage of the college and advanced degrees in the United States in [engineering, finance and the law], stated that as a result of their formative training women were unsuitable for executive positions, that women did not have the emotional discipline required for they showed emotion whereas

continued, page 4

# 2011 Mildred Levin Scholarship Recipient

By Adrienne J. Miller, Co-chair Scholarship Committee

**B**renda L. Rosales is the 2011 Mildred Levin Scholarship Recipient. Brenda is a second year law student at UC Hastings Law School and an active member of La Raza Law Student Association as well as a member of the Associated Students Image Committee for Hastings.

Brenda graduated from UCLA with a BA in Chicana/o Studies and Public Affairs Education in 2008. She was Co-President of the Hermanas Unidas in 2007-2008 and a recipient of the UCLA Chancellor's Community Service Award in 2008. Brenda has worked for both the Los Angeles Legal Aid Foundation and as an Intern for the Public Counsel in Los Angeles, an organization that serves low-income minorities. She has continued her volunteer service while at Hastings working for Las Raza and the American Bar Association as a student representative. Last spring Brenda also volunteered at "Admitted Students Day" where she advised incoming students about law school.

Brenda immigrated to the United States from Mexico with her family twenty-six years ago for a better future. Brenda's father worked in a factory to provide for his family and both her parents encouraged her to educate herself and become active in her community. She was raised in South Central LA, however, because of her hard work and her family's devotion to education, Brenda

applied for and was accepted to Venice High School Magnet Program. Through the magnet program she was afforded an excellent high school education and learned that with hard work she would be able to attend college. She credits her family's sacrifices to provide for her and her brother for giving her the determination to overcome many socio-economic challenges and avoid the pitfalls of gangs, drugs, and violence in her community. Her determination to overcome hardship has stayed with her during her career at UC Hastings and is now looking forward to giving back to her community. She tutors elementary school students at the Tenderloin's Boy and Girls club through Hastings La Raza Power Hour.

Brenda's goal is to help "voiceless people" overcome the obstacles they encounter because of their lack of knowledge of the English language and the language of the law. In her words, "...language equates access and low-income people with poor English skills particularly are disenfranchised in the law and face a double language barrier." She states that, she lacked a voice at one point because of her classmates' negative criticism silenced her, but now she has the voice her parents and community lacked and is determined to have it heard both inside and outside of law school.

The Mildred Levin Scholarship was \$2,225.00 for 2011

## QB 90th Anniversary

*Continued from page 3*

men were trained to hide emotion." The PG&E representative was then "bombarded with questions on emotional discipline in executives and how the company measured it. Additionally, he was unable to explain why, with as large a legal staff as it has, PG&E, with its emphasis

on educational background, had been unable to find a female attorney to replace Anne McDonald Christensen who retired about 1960."

But this outraged synopsis was apparently for members only. For the outside world, Queen's Bench put a happy, feminine face on the event and its members' circumstances. In an article describing the event in the next edition of the BASF Briefcase magazine, Queen's Bench highlighted the PT&T representative's observation that personnel assessment reviews had revealed that the management capabilities of women equaled or exceeded those of men. The article

concluded that "[b]oth gentlemen gave their attentive listeners the definite impression that, in their opinion, the 'intransigent and hostile male attitudes' of the past are definitely passe."



Mildred Levin (QB 1959 President) speaks to the Classified Sales Group on January 21, 1958.



1955 photo of QB members, Hon. Lenore Underwood, Hon. Theresa Meikle and Supervisor Clarissa Shortall McMahon.

## President's Message

Continued from page 1

out short.<sup>3</sup> The ratio of women's to men's earnings was lowest among personal financial advisors (58.4%), retail salespersons (64.7%), property, real estate and community association managers (65.3%) and insurance sales agents (66.7%).<sup>4</sup>

The picture is no prettier for lawyers. Women lawyers, as a group, earned 77.1% of what their male counterparts earned in 2010. NAWL reports that even women equity partners earned just 85¢ to their male counterparts' dollar last year.<sup>5</sup>

Why is this happening? Women are now more likely than men to obtain either a bachelor's or a master's degree.<sup>6</sup> Women have accounted for roughly half of all law school graduates since 2000. And yet, at all levels of education, women continue to earn less than men.

Some speculate that women earn less than men because they have less appetite for competition. Citing a study that found that a gender gap in math tests depended upon whether the test was given in a competitive environment, for example, John Tierney speculates that "[m]aybe women, like the ones who shunned the experimental [math] tournament, know they could make more money in some jobs but also know they wouldn't enjoy competing for it as much as their male rivals."<sup>7</sup>

While the theory might conceivably explain choice of occupation, it does not explain why there would be a pay gap within the same job category. Male and female retail sales persons, educators and law firm equity partners

have chosen, and presumably face, the same stressors and levels of competition.

Others speculate that women are essentially just too polite—men get paid more because they ask for more money. Evidence does show that women are less likely to negotiate for higher pay—but it also shows that there may be good reason for women's reluctance. A 2007 study by Harvard University Professor Hannah Riley Bowles and Carnegie Mellon Professor Linda Babcock concludes that women are more likely than men to be penalized for attempting to negotiate compensation, especially by male evaluators.<sup>8</sup> In other words, a woman's reticence to negotiate compensation may be a symptom, rather than the cause, of the equal pay problem.

Others theorize that women prioritize family while men prioritize work, and therefore women are paid less because they work fewer hours or choose less demanding, lower paid positions.<sup>9</sup> The explanation is certainly alluring—and a recent multi-agency federal report entitled *Women in America* may lend some credence to the narrative, at least as far as married women are concerned. According to that report, census data indicates that employed married women age 25-54 spent on average 7 hours and 40 minutes on work-related activities, while their married male counterparts spent 8 hours and 50 minutes.<sup>10</sup> A disparity in hours worked might indeed explain why women with children suffer a wage penalty of 4% for the first child and 12% for each additional child.<sup>11</sup>

Yet the pay disparity is clearly not entirely within the women's control. The gender wage gap begins long before women choose to have children. A U.S. Government Accountability Office study found that, in 2007, full-time female managers without children earned 83¢ cents on

3 Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Spotlight on Statistics*, "Women at Work" (March 2011), published at [www.bls.gov/spotlight/2011/women/](http://www.bls.gov/spotlight/2011/women/).

4 *Id.*

5 National Assn. of Women Lawyers & NAWL Foundation, "Report of the Fifth Annual National Survey on Retention and Promotion of Women in Law Firms" (October 2010), published at [http://nawl.timberlakepublishing.com/files/NAWL%202010%20Final\(1\).pdf](http://nawl.timberlakepublishing.com/files/NAWL%202010%20Final(1).pdf) ("2010 NAWL Survey").

A July 2010 report of the Project for Attorney Retention and the Minority Corporate Counsel Association similarly states that women equity partners earn on average \$66,000 per year less than male equity partners, and women income partners average \$25,000 less than their male peers. Joan C. Williams & Yeta T. Richardson "New Millenium, Same Glass Ceiling? The Impacts of Law Firm Compensation Systems on Women," The Project for Attorney Retention & Minority Corporate Counsel Assn. (July 2010).

6 Office of Management and Budget & Economics and Statistics Administration of the Department of Commerce, *Women in America* (March 2011) ("Women In America Report"); BLS Report, *supra*.

7 John Tierney, "What Women Want," *The New York Times* (May 24, 2005) (citing Muriel Niederle and Lise Vesterlund, "Explaining the Gender Gap in Math Test Scores," 24 *Journal of Economic Perspectives* No. 2 (Spring 2010)).

8 Hannah Riley Bowles, Linda Babcock & Lei Lai, "Social incentives for gender differences in the propensity to initiate negotiations: Sometimes it does hurt to ask," *Elsevier Organizational Behavior and Human Decision Processes* 103 (May 2007): 84-103.

9 Carrie Lukas, Managing Director at the conservative Independent Women's Forum and author of *The Politically Incorrect Guide to Women, Sex, and Feminism* (Regnery, 2006), cites Department of Labor Statistics on hours worked and her own personal experience: "I always like to use myself as an example: I have a Master's degree, and I've been working pretty much non-stop for the last 15 years. But, almost six years ago, I had a child, and at that point I took a pay cut. I ended up having three kids in the last six years, and, as a result, my wages haven't been going up very much, but I've been trading off flexibility for higher pay, and I feel like that's a great choice for me. There are a lot of women out there who make those choices, because their highest priority isn't making money - they value other things. But it's really hard to capture all that in a statistic."

10 *Women In America Report, supra*.

11 "On Equal Pay Day, Busting 4 Top Myths About the Wage Gap," Ms. Magazine Blog (April 2011). The article, however, states that this penalty that is not explained by work experience, education or other factors that affect pay—presumably, including number of hours worked.

## President's Message

Continued from page 4

their male counterparts' dollar, even after controlling for hours worked past full time.<sup>12</sup> The wage differential simply increased once women managers had children—female managers with children earned just 79¢ for every dollar earned by their male counterparts.<sup>13</sup>

Similarly, a recent Catalyst study of MBA graduates found that men started in higher positions and earned more money than their female counterparts beginning with their very first post-MBA job. In fact, the women earned less, even after controlling for prior experience, post-MBA job level, region and industry.<sup>14</sup> At this point in their careers, one can hardly claim that the businesswomen were paid less because they had chosen to “dial down.”

If, as seems likely, the causes are multifaceted and complex, what can be done? There do appear to be some occasional bright spots. For example, a March 2009 Government Accountability Office Report found that the gender wage gap is narrower among federal employees than in the work force as a whole. The study showed that in 2007, female federal employees earned 89% of what their male counterparts earned. However, controlling statistically for occupation and employment experience increased the estimate to 93% of men's earnings.<sup>15</sup> Nancy Folbre, a Professor in the Department of Economics at the University of Massachusetts, concludes from the study that that hiring and promotion policies can play an important role—job descriptions are more standardized in government employment, and salaries are a matter of public record.<sup>16</sup>

The advice mirrors to some extent the recent conclusions of the Project for Attorney Retention and the Minority Corporate Counsel Association. Their July 2010 report makes a number of recommendations for achieving gender parity in law firms, including: (1) increasing the number of women on compensation committees; (2) increasing transparency for origination credit and compensation criteria; (3) creating a means for fair resolution of origination credit; and (4) increasing women's access

<sup>12</sup> U.S. Government Accountability Office, “Women in Management: Analysis of Female Managers' Representation, Characteristics and Pay,” (Sept. 20, 2010), published at [www.gao.gov/new.items/d10892r.pdf](http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d10892r.pdf)

<sup>13</sup> *Id.* Perhaps unsurprisingly, the report also found that female managers were less likely than male managers to have children.

<sup>14</sup> Nancy M. Carter & Christine Silva, “Pipeline's Broken Promise,” Catalyst (2010). Nor did the women catch up—the salary gap began at the outset and widened over time.

<sup>15</sup> Report to Congressional Requesters, “Women's Pay: Gender Pay Gap in the Federal Workforce Narrows as Differences in Occupation, Education and Experience Diminish” (March 2009); available at <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d09279.pdf>

<sup>16</sup> Nancy Folbre, “Happy Equal Pay Day,” *The New York Times* (April 28, 2009).

to rainmaking opportunities and inclusion in succession planning.<sup>17</sup>

So, there goes another Equal Pay Day. Here's hoping that some year soon, it will be part of our New Year's Eve celebration, rather than a mid-April lament.

<sup>17</sup> Joan C. Williams & Veta T. Richardson “New Millennium, Same Glass Ceiling? The Impacts of Law Firm Compensation Systems on Women,” The Project for Attorney Retention & Minority Corporate Counsel Assn. (July 2010).

## Queen's Bench New Members

Please welcome the following new members who joined between April 5 and May 26, 2011:

- Susan Ashcraft
- Sofia Chesnokova  
Department of Labor, OALJ
- Alison Dinmore
- Rose-Ellen Fairgrieve  
San Francisco City Attorney's Office
- Veronique Fouilliart
- Pamela Fulmer  
Jones Day
- Alyse L. Ketz  
Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker
- Jessica Lalonde  
Duane Morris LLP
- Jenica Mariani  
Hanson Bridgett
- Erin Kathleen Poppler  
Bassi Edlin Huie & Blum, LLP
- Adrienne Leight Rogers  
Court of Appeal, First District
- Amy Solaro  
Bledsoe Cathcart Diestel Pedersen et al



# QB 90th Anniversary Lunch

Continued from page 1



# ANNOUNCEMENTS ...

## June 9, 2011: Women Rainmakers Panel

Join us on Thursday, June 9, at 6 pm at Foley & Lardner, LLP, for an unforgettable evening with the Bay Area's top women rainmakers. Donna Bedford, renowned business development coach, will moderate this interactive discussion of exemplary women lawyers. See page 8 for more information or download [flyer](#).

## June 29, 2011: Preventing Burnout and Building Engagement (MCLE)

The Employment/Work-Life Committee presents "Preventing Burnout and Building Engagement," Wednesday, June 29, 2011, from 6:00-7:30 p.m. Join us for a conversation with Christina Maslach, Professor of Psychology at U.C. Berkeley and author of the Maslach Burnout Inventory. Professor Maslach will discuss steps professionals can take to address and avoid burnout and increase their engagement. Location TBA. Attendees will receive 1 hour of elimination of bias credit. Please see the [flyer](#) for more details.

## July 27, 2011: Queen's Bench Annual Judges' Dinner

The Annual Judges' Dinner will be on July 27, 2011 at the Sir Francis Drake Hotel, 450 Powell Street, San Francisco. Keynote speaker is Lateefah Simon, Executive Director of Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights of the Bay Area and MacArthur Fellow. Cocktails at 5:30 p.m., dinner at 6:30 p.m. Sponsor Tables (10 seats including a hosted judge) at \$1,250 if purchased by July 15, and \$1,500 thereafter. Individual tickets are \$90 for Queen's Bench members and \$125 for non-members and guests. See [flyer](#) for details.



### QUEEN'S BENCH NEWSLETTER

Published monthly by the Queen's Bench  
Bar Association of the San Francisco Bay Area,  
a California nonprofit corporation

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Pauline Farmer-Koppenol

#### ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE:

816 E. Fourth Avenue  
San Mateo, CA 94401-3317  
Telephone: 415-249-9280  
Facsimile: 650-344-1588  
E-mail: [admin@queensbench.org](mailto:admin@queensbench.org)  
Internet: [www.queensbench.org](http://www.queensbench.org)

ADMINISTRATOR: Maurine Killough

#### 2011 OFFICERS

SARAH M. KING ..... President  
REBECCA HOOLEY ..... First Vice President  
LISA FREITAS ..... Second Vice President  
VANESSA HIERBAUM ..... Treasurer  
ANNIE O'DONNELL ..... Secretary  
PAULINE FARMER-KOPPENOL .. Asst. Secretary/Treasurer  
AMEE A. MIKACICH ..... Immediate Past President

#### 2011 DIRECTORS

HON. BARBARA J. R. JONES  
CLARISSA A. KANG  
KELLY ROBBINS  
HOLLY SCHAITBERGER  
JAIME G. TOUCHSTONE  
MARY CATHERINE WIEDERHOLD

# The Tea Party and Your Reproductive Rights

By Mary Catherine Wiederhold, Co-Chair Legislative Issues and Reproductive Rights committee

In March Kentucky Senator Rand Paul questioned Kathleen Hogan, Deputy Assistant Energy Secretary for Efficiency, not about energy efficiency but about abortion. Paul is a member, if not a leader, of the Tea Party movement.

Rand Paul asked Ms. Hogan if she was pro-choice. She stated she was “pro-choice for light bulbs.” Paul then took the opportunity for a five minute monologue how women can get abortions but he cannot use a toilet that flushes properly or a decent lightbulb.

Although much has been written about the Tea Party, very few articles point out Tea Party issues that pertain to women. 53% of Tea Party respondents said the Roe v. Wade decision was a bad thing (compared to 34% of Americans overall); 40% opposed same-sex marriage and civil unions (compared to 30% overall) and 30% wanted gun control laws eased (compared to 16% overall).

Oddly, Paul was one of three Republicans who voted against ending funding for Planned Parenthood. On March 9, the Senate rejected, on a 44-56 vote, the House-approved long-term budget bill that contained the Pence amendment de-funding Planned Parenthood. Indiana Representative Mike Pence’s proposal would eliminate the more than \$75 million a year the group receives from the federal government to provide family planning and sex education, mostly to low-income women. This amendment was proposed even though the Hyde Amendment has banned the use of taxpayer money for abortions since 1976. Representative Jackie Spier, who represents San Mateo and the southern part of San Francisco, spoke on the House floor on February 17 during the debate.



Spier said that she herself had undergone an emergency abortion when complications developed in her pregnancy.

Nevertheless, it is one of several sticking points that is preventing the Congress from passing a budget for next fiscal year starting in October. The funding for Planned Parenthood was also a sticking point in the budget negotiations for this fiscal year.

The Tea Party movement is financially backed by a group called the Americans for Prosperity (AFP). Its chair is David H. Koch. AFP was founded with the support of David H. Koch and Charles G. Koch of Koch Industries. According to The New Yorker magazine “the role of Americans for Prosperity was to help ‘educate’ Tea Party activists on policy details, and to give them ‘next-step training’ after their rallies, so that their political energy could be channeled “more effectively.” In other words, elect Tea Party members who adhere to the Tea Party line. This ‘party line’ wants to eliminate the right to health care and the right to an abortion.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

---

## June

- 7** **Board of Directors Meeting**  
6:00 p.m.  
Fenwick and West LLP
- 9** **Women Rainmakers Panel**  
6:00 p.m.  
Allsteel Showroom, Four Maritime Plaza  
See [flyer](#) for details.
- 15** **Juvenile Hall Project**  
7:00 p.m.  
Youth Guidance Center
- 28** **Business Development Committee**  
6:00 p.m.  
Mergis Group
- 29** **Preventing Job Burnout**  
6:00 p.m.  
MCLE Presentation  
*Speaker:* Christine Bingham  
Three Embarcadero Center, 25th Floor  
See [flyer](#) for details.

## July

- 5** **Board of Directors Meeting**  
6:00 p.m.  
Fenwick and West LLP
- 6** **Juvenile Hall Project**  
7:00 p.m.  
Youth Guidance Center
- 13** **Juvenile Hall Project**  
7:00 p.m.  
Youth Guidance Center
- 26** **Business Development Committee**  
6:00 p.m.  
Mergis Group
- 27** **QB Annual Judges' Dinner**  
5:30 p.m.  
San Francisco Drake Hotel  
See [flyer](#) for details.



[www.queensbench.org](http://www.queensbench.org)

816 E. Fourth Avenue

San Mateo, CA 94401-3317

Queen's Bench Newsletter

May/June 2011