



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

How Can We Win If We Don't Run?

by Sarah M. King

With media focusing on such visible female politicians as Michele Bachmann, Sarah Palin, Meg Whitman, Nancy



Pelosi and Hillary Clinton, it would seem that women may have finally broken the barrier to gender equality in U.S. politics. Yet women still make up just 28.3% of California's legislature, 23.6% of state legislators nationwide, and a miserable 16.8% of the United States Congress.¹ This latter statistic dropped this year for the first time in three decades and places the United States in 70th place — tied with Turkmenistan — with regard to the proportion of seats that women occupy in the lower or only houses of their national legislatures.²

Given that U.S. women win elections at the same rate as men, why is it that the current generation of working women appear unlikely to live in a time when women truly have an equal vote with men in our elected government? The answer may simply be that if women don't run, they can't win.

¹"Women in State Legislatures 2011," Center for American Women and Politics, Eagleton Institute of Politics, Rutgers University.

²www.sacbee.com/2011/02/14/3400421/us-lags-in-women-political-leaders.html#ixzz1aXn7ziEd

continued, page 2

Queen's Bench Proposed Slate for 2012

Pursuant to Article IV, section C (2) of the Queen's Bench Bylaws, the Nominating Committee is pleased to nominate the following members of the 2012 Queen's Bench Board of Directors:

Officers:

- Rebecca Hooley.....President
- Lisa Freitas.....First Vice President
- Vanessa HierbaumSecond Vice President
- Annie O'Donnell.....Treasurer
- Pauline Farmer-Koppenol.....Secretary
- Anne Gyemant-Paris.....Asst. Secretary/Treasurer & Newsletter Editor

Directors:

- Patricia Rosenberg.....Director 15 + years (term ends 2014)
- Kelly Robbins.....Director 7-15 years (term ends 2012)
- Holly SchaitbergerDirector 2-7 years (term ends 2013)
- Clarissa Kang.....Director at Large
- Jamie Touchstone.....Director at Large
- Mary Catherine Wiederhold.....Director at Large
- Sarah King.....Immediate Past President

Thank you to our 2012 Nominating Committee: Eliza Rodrigues, Chair (Past President 2003), Adrienne Jacobs Miller (Past President 1987), Barbara Ann Caulfield (Past President 2000), Pamela Markert and Sophia Andritsakis.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Domestic Violence and Technology	2
Juvenile Hall Project.....	3
2011 LEAADD Dinner	4
Announcements	6
Minority Bar Coalition Unity Award	7
QB New Members.....	7
Calendar	8

Domestic Violence and Technology: How New Technologies Protect Victims...and Enable Abusers

By Roni Pomerantz

In honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, on October 6th the Queen's Bench Domestic Violence Committee presented an MCLE panel entitled, "Domestic Violence and Technology: How New Technologies Protect Victims...and Enable Abusers." The all-star panel provided a legislative, prosecutorial, and community perspective on the subject. The panel included Assemblywoman Fiona Ma, Chair of the Select Committee on Domestic Violence; San Francisco Assistant District Attorney Marc Guillory, who recently served as lead prosecutor for felony stalking cases; and Alicia Stonebreaker, Program Coordinator for the California Partnership to End Domestic Violence. The panel was moderated by Dr. Emily Murase, Executive Director of the San Francisco Department on the Status of Women.

The discussion focused on the intersection of domestic violence and new technologies, such as social media sites and electronic tracking devices, like GPS. Panelists were asked a variety of questions on the subject, including about best practices for assisting domestic violence victims and the perspective of the judiciary on domestic violence related issues.

Mr. Guillory explained that new technologies and the advent of easily accessible web-based information have transformed traditionally physical forms of stalking and harassment. Now, he said, perpetrators can access more information on attempted victims more easily, including their location, background, and networks. Mr. Guillory also described the evidentiary hurdles presented by these new technologies from the prosecutorial perspective. For example, prosecutors pursuing such cases must work with social media sites like Facebook to freeze abusers' accounts, and later face the evidentiary challenge of linking harassment to individual accounts and mobile phones.

Ms. Stonebreaker explained that because abusers rely on isolating victims from family and friends, new technologies can also play a positive role in assisting victims. For example, social media sites such as Facebook can be positive tools for survivors, allowing them to reconnect with loved ones after periods of isolation. Ms. Stonebreaker provided best practices for assisting domestic violence victims and survivors, and for any social media site user seeking to ensure her privacy. She said that every Facebook user should educate herself on Facebook's privacy settings, and explained how people can protect themselves by providing only a limited profile on such sites.

Assemblywoman Fiona Ma described her ongoing efforts to pass Assembly Bill 452, which would update the Penal Code to prevent abusers from illegally using

electronic trafficking devices. She explained that current loopholes in the law prevent prosecutors from successfully prosecuting abusers who use such devices to monitor or otherwise harass or stalk victims. She said that the bill may present difficulties for those in the business community who use GPS for delivery and other services, however, so she and her staff are working to address these concerns. Assemblywoman Ma also encouraged members of the community to get involved in or speak at domestic-violence related hearings in the future, to ensure that domestic-violence related bills are passed.

The panel concluded with questions from the audience and closing remarks by moderator Dr. Emily Murase, who spoke about her efforts to educate young people as the newest member of the San Francisco School Board. For more information on Domestic Violence Awareness Month, or how you can get involved, **contact Queen's Bench Domestic Violence Committee Co-Chairs Vanessa Hierbaum, at vhierbaum@kaymoser.com, and Katie Burke, at burkefamilylaw@gmail.com.**

President's Message

Continued from page 1

While more female GOP candidates ran for office in 2010 than in years past, the number of Democratic women candidates has stagnated or declined. Time magazine reports that in 2010, 134 Democratic women ran for the House compared to 148 in 2008, and 19 Democratic women ran for the Senate in 2010, compared to the record of 22 in 1992, the "Year of the Woman."³

On September 22, Queen's Bench presented the final program in its 2011 Leadership Series, a seminar entitled "Running for Office." Kimberly Ellis of Emerge California and Bettina Duvall of California List spoke to attendees about the ins and outs of running for elected office and the programs that are available to support women who are contemplating throwing their hat into the proverbial ring.

While numerous reasons are commonly floated to explain the dearth of female candidates — the nature of politics as a "blood sport," a lack of connection to political powerbrokers, and the difficulty in achieving politics-life balance, the speakers observed that unlike men, women must be asked — repeatedly — to run.

³ www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,2011912,00.html#ixzz1aXr7e0GJ

continued, page 3

Juvenile Hall Project Looking for Committee Members and Volunteers

By April Rose Sommer and Nancy Walter

The Juvenile Hall Project, one of Queens Bench's most successful community outreach programs for decades, needs you! Co-Chairs Nancy Walter and April Sommer have some great ideas for expanding the Project but can't do it alone.

Currently, the Juvenile Hall Project provides companionship, enrichment activities and mentoring to pre-teen and teenage girls lock-up at San Francisco's Juvenile Detention Center. The Juvenile Hall Project encourages the children to express themselves through arts and music.

The Project is looking for some dedicated volunteers to come on a regular basis, as well as committee members to support the project in other ways. Please contact April at AprilSommerLaw@yahoo.com or (510) 423-0676 for more information on becoming a volunteer or committee member.

Volunteers

Volunteers with the project meet twice a month at the San Francisco Juvenile Detention Center to spend time with girls who have become involved with the juvenile justice system. The Project usually consists of a short evening of arts and craft and informal chatting over a fun snack. The evening offers the girls the opportunity to engage in creative self-expression and to enjoy attention from positive female role models. Occasionally, the Juvenile Hall Project will invite guests in music or the arts to participate. For example, on October 19, 2011, the Juvenile Hall Project will partner with Music National Service to provide the girls with an interactive musical experience.

The Project needs volunteers that can commit to attending at least one evening a month, scheduled at your

President's Message

Continued from page 2

Once a woman voices her desire to run for office (and recognizes the importance of doing so), there are resources available to help her develop the organization, skills, and network she needs to win. Emerge California, for example, offers a seven-month, in-depth training program for Democratic women interested in running for office. The deadline to apply for their 2012 class has been extended to October 28, 2011—applications can be found online at www.emergeca.org/apply. Republican women can find support through such organizations as The Bergeson Series.

So, in the hopes of ensuring that my daughter — or at least hers — sees the day when women make up half of both the population and our elected government, let me ask — won't you run for office?

convenience, and running one program over a six month period. We always welcome volunteers to come for just one evening when they can, but it is more beneficial for the Project to have dependable volunteers that can establish relationships with the staff and a report with the girls.

Committee Members

The Project is looking for committee members to assist in making the existing Project more vital and productive and in helping expand the reach of our work. Committee members will not be expected to attend the evenings at the Detention Center, although we encourage attendance at least once. This position would be a good fit for QB members that want to support the Project but are unable to volunteer at the evening events.

Some possible projects include:

- **Network/resource building:** We would like to have committee members explore what programs are offered for girls in detention throughout the San Francisco Bay Area. This information will help improve the work we are doing, set the groundwork for a possible expansion of our program, and help create a supportive network of organizations and individuals that volunteer with this special population.
- **Program Expansion:** We are looking for committee members to assist in expanding our program offering beyond the walls of the detention center. Law students at UC Berkeley have a longstanding, robust mentoring program in Alameda County that may serve as a model for a similar QB program. Committee members would work with the Probation Department and other interested local organizations to explore opportunities for expansion of our program, including a mentoring program and work in group homes.
- **Brainstorming/Project Prep:** It can be quite challenging to plan a crafts project suitable for girls ages 12 -18 that can be accomplished in less than an hour and that does not involve any sharp objects or breakable materials! In addition, we challenge ourselves to plan holistic cultural evenings complete with a small educational component and ethnic foods. Committee members can help plan projects and do some project preparation for upcoming volunteer evenings. We'd also like to start compiling our past successful projects into a guide with materials lists, instructions, and hand-outs that can be used for future QB volunteers, as well volunteers across the country.

2011 LEAADD Dinner

On October 11, 2011, women (and some men) of many different professions gathered for our annual LEAADD Dinner. For those of you who are not familiar with the LEAADD Dinner, it is an annual networking and social event, bringing together women lawyers, engineers, architects, accountants, doctors, dentists. In the past few years, we have expanded our numbers and professions represented at LEAADD events, which now include many other professions.

Approximately 85 accomplished women from these many professions attended the 2011 LEAADD Dinner. This year's event took place at the City Club in San Francisco. The night began with our usual cocktail hour, where attendees mingled with familiar faces and new. After cocktails and welcoming remarks from our 2011 Business Development Committee Co-chairs Sophia Andritsakis and Janka Dubakova, attendees enjoyed their dinner, meeting and chatting with their tablemates, and our keynote speaker.

The 2011 LEAADD Dinner featured Janice Mirikitani, Co-Founder and Founding President of GLIDE. Ms. Mirikitani, in partnership with her husband, Reverend Cecil Williams, has achieved worldwide recognition for their groundbreaking work at GLIDE. Over 43 years, with Mirikitani's leadership, GLIDE has built 87 comprehensive programs that provide education, recovery support, primary and mental health care, job training, housing and human services. Ms. Mirikitani is also San Francisco's second Poet Laureate, appointed in 2000. She has authored four books of poetry and is the editor of nine landmark anthologies which provide platforms for writers of color, women, youth and children. Ms. Mirikitani has also worked in civil rights causes for various multi ethnic communities, including the struggle for redress for Japanese Americans incarcerated during WWII. Ms. Mirikitani is a recipient of countless awards, including the Governor and First Lady's Conference on Women and Families' "Minerva Award Minerva Award.

Ms. Mirikitani's speech was an inspirational mix of her poetry and her story of how she arose out of a cycle of poverty and abuse to find her voice. She described her process of overcoming trauma and the shame it engendered, stemming from her interment as a child with her Japanese-American During World War II, the incest she suffered at the hands of her stepfather after her release, and the domestic violence to which she was inflicted prior to her marriage to Reverend Williams. Mirikitani's honesty and courage in relating her story was received with warmth and admiration by the attendees.



After Ms. Mirikitani's speech, the Business Development Committee gave away door prizes that were generously donated by:

- Heritage Row
- Café Meuse
- John Bentley's
- Epicenter Cafe

The Business Development Committee would like to thank our invaluable sponsors:

Gold Sponsors:

- Trucker Huss
- Tufts Stephenson & Kasper, LLP

Wine sponsored by:

- JAMS
- Snowden Vineyards, Hon. W. Scott Snowden, Ret.
- Fenwick & West, LLP

Printing sponsored by:

- FTI Consulting

We also offer our special thanks to Maurine Killough, Queen's Bench Administrator for her tireless work and assistance, the management and staff of the City Club who took excellent care of our guests, and to our 2011 active committee members: Michelle Seifert, Janka Dubakova, Sophia Andritsakis, Jaime Touchstone, Hana Hardy, Nadia Brannon, Clarissa Kang, Dawn Withers, and Cindy Yu. This committee was absolutely fantastic, and their hard-working spirit and contributions were directly responsible for this event's success.

We appreciate the continued support and participation in our events, and look forward to continued expansion in the future. Please join us, and invite the amazing professional women that you know to our many events. Until then, have a wonderful holiday season!



continued, page 5

LEAADD Dinner

Continued from page 4



ANNOUNCEMENTS ...

October 20, 2011

Annual Members' Meeting

The Annual Members' Meeting will be held Oct. 20, 2011 at 6 pm at Fenwick & West LLP; 555 California St., 12th Floor; San Francisco, CA 94104. Please RSVP to admin@queensbench.org. There is no cost for this event but please pre-register so that your name can be added to the building's security list.

November 10, 2011

Speed Networking

The Business Development Committee invites you to the first Speed Networking Event. The event will be facilitated by Debra Mugnani Monroe, President of Monroe Personnel Service, LLC / Temptime. The event takes place at Nixon Peabody; One Embarcadero Center, Suite 1800 in San Francisco. Tickets are \$20 for members and \$30 for nonmembers. Seats are limited so sign up now. Additional information is in the attached flyer: www.queensbench.org/pdf/flyer/2011-11-10_Speednetworking.pdf. Tickets can be purchased online: www.queensbench.org/speednetworking-register.html.

November 14, 2011

Unity Awards Reception

Please join us in honoring Judge Bradstreet, and network with minority attorneys and law students from over 25 Bay Area minority organizations, at the Unity Awards Reception. The reception will be held on Monday, November 14, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Alumni Reception Center, University of California, Hastings College of the Law, 200 McAllister Street, San Francisco, California. The Unity Awards Reception is free to all, but please rsvp to mbrcvps@gmail.com for security purposes.

November 17, 2011

Past Presidents Dinner

Get your holiday shopping done early at the silent and live auctions at the Past Presidents Dinner and catch up with Queens Bench friends at the same time. The proceeds of the auctions will go to the Queen's Bench Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that funds programs such as the Queen's Bench Juvenile Hall Project. See donation registration form (www.queensbench.org/pdf/flyer/2011-09_QB-Past-Presidents-Dinner-Donation-Request-Form.pdf) for details on how to donate items to the auction or raffle. The Past Presidents Dinner will be held on Nov. 17, 2011 starting at 6 pm at the Marines' Memorial Club and Hotel; 609 Sutter Street in San Francisco. Tickets may be purchased online: www.queensbench.org/PP-dinner-register.html.

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
Internet: 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 SCHAIBERGER
JAIME G. TOUCHSTONE
MARY CATHERINE WIEDERHOLD



Queen's Bench Presents Its 2011 Minority Bar Coalition Unity Award to the Hon. Angela Bradstreet (QB Past President 1989)

This coming month, Queen's Bench will present its 2012 Minority Bar Coalition Award to 1989 QB Past President, the Hon. Angela Bradstreet.

As a member of the Minority Bar Coalition, Queen's Bench may elect to grant a Unity Award to a member who has best shown a dedication to working in a unified manner to advance the cause of diversity in the legal profession.

Angela Bradstreet is a judge is a judge in the Superior Court for the City and County of San Francisco. Before her appointment to the Court in September 2010, she previously served as the State Labor Commissioner. Judge Bradstreet was selected as one of the top 75 female litigators in California in 2005. During her 25 years in private practice at CB&M, she defended employers in whistleblower, sexual discrimination, harassment, disability, wrongful termination, and racial discrimination claims.

Judge Bradstreet has been a tireless advocate on behalf of women, as well as gays and lesbians. In addition to being a former President of Queen's Bench, Judge Bradstreet is also a former President of California Women Lawyers and the Bar Association of San Francisco and is the creator of the No Glass Ceiling Initiative that has been endorsed by over 90 law firms and corporate legal departments. She is a recipient of the California State Bar's Diversity Award and the Anti Defamation League's Jurisprudence Award. She is also the recipient of the Margaret Brent Award, the highest award given by the American Bar Association in recognition of accomplishments of women lawyers who have excelled in their field and been leaders in advancing women in the legal profession.



Despite the significant and weighty demands on her schedule, Judge Bradstreet has long been an ardent advocate and supporter of Queen's Bench, serving in a variety of capacities from President to auctioneer at the Past President's Dinner to Mentor for the Queen's Bench Judicial Aspirations Mentorship Pod. She is an inspiration and a true friend to our community of women lawyers.

Please join us in honoring Judge Bradstreet, and network with minority attorneys and law students from over 25 Bay Area minority organizations, at the Unity Awards Reception to be held

on Monday, November 14, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Alumni Reception Center, University of California, Hastings College of the Law, 200 McAllister Street, San Francisco, California. The Unity Awards Reception is free to all, but please rsvp to mbcrrsvps@gmail.com for security purposes.

Queen's Bench New Members

Please welcome the following new members who joined between September 19 and October 17, 2011:

- Courtney Bates
- Tijuana Gray
- Nancy E. Hudgins*
Mediation Offices of Nancy E. Hudgins
- Naki M. Margolis Irvin
Margolis & Morin, LLP
- Ariane Mohamadi
- Jessica Scheppmann
Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr
- Amy Todd
Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosait
- Mary Wilke*
Edgcomb Law Group

*joined last period



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November

- 1** **Board of Directors Meeting**
6:00 p.m.
Fenwick and West LLP
- 2** **Juvenile Hall Project**
7:00 p.m.
Youth Guidance Center
- 10** **Speed Networking**
6:00 p.m.
Nixon Peabody LLP
See [flyer](#) for more information.
- 16** **Juvenile Hall Project**
7:00 p.m.
Youth Guidance Center
- 17** **Past Presidents Dinner**
6:00 p.m.
Marines' Memorial Club and Hotel
609 Sutter Street, San Francisco
See [flyer](#) for more information.

- 29** **Business Development Committee**
6:00 p.m.
Mergis Group
475 Sansome St., Ste. 520

December

- No Board Meeting**
- 7** **Juvenile Hall Project**
7:00 p.m.
Youth Guidance Center
- 21** **Juvenile Hall Project**
7:00 p.m.
Youth Guidance Center
- No Business Development Committee Meeting**



www.queensbench.org

816 E. Fourth Avenue

San Mateo, CA 94401-3317

Queen's Bench Newsletter

October 2011