



HAWAII WOMEN LAWYERS

NEWSLETTER

February, 1989

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February Monthly Meeting: Open Forum For Your Ideas

DATE: Friday, February 24, 1989

TIME: 12:00 Noon - 1:30 p.m.

PLACE: Cades Schutte Fleming & Wright
1000 Bishop Street
10th Floor Conference Room

TOPIC: "Open House/Open Agenda for 1989"

Please come to an informal open house and brainstorm on HWL activities in 1989. Bring a brown bag lunch and enjoy a chance to share new ideas and new friends in the coming year.

Recap of 1989 HWL Annual Awards and Installation Luncheon

In lieu of a January General Meeting, HWL held its Annual Installation Luncheon on January 26, 1989 at the Pacific Club. New officers and a board of directors for 1989 were installed and awards presented for Outstanding Woman Lawyer of the Year and for Distinguished Service. The 1989 officers of HWL are: President, Ellen Godbey Carson; Vice President, Corianne W. Lau; Secretary, Susan Jaworowski; and Treasurer, Michelle Tucker. Board members are Lissa Andrews, Hisae Ishii-Chang, Cynthia Farias, Sheryl Nicholson and Linnel Nishioka.

The Distinguished Service Award was presented to Eleanor Pierce, retired Executive Director of the Hawaii State Bar Association. This award was made in recognition of Ms. Pierce's long-time service to the Bar Association and the legal community. Presenting the award to Ms. Pierce was past Bar Association President, Bill McCorriston. The Outstanding Woman Lawyer of the Year Award was made to the Honorable JoAnn Yukimura, Mayor of Kauai. Mayor Yukimura was cited for her work on the Kauai County Council and for her achievement in attaining election to the Office of Mayor. Her persistence in pursuit of this elective office and her vision of slow, quality growth for her community have inspired other women attorneys. Mayor Yukimura's award was presented by Governor John Waihee.

Outgoing President Lorraine H. Akiba reviewed HWL's numerous accomplishments in 1988. On behalf of the Board, Lorraine presented an award to her secretary, Judy Fields, for her fine service to HWL in 1988. Incoming President Ellen Godbey Carson issued a call to action to all HWL members and the legal community at large to work together in continuing efforts against sexism and racism, preservation of reproductive freedoms, childcare, and parental leave.

Announcements

Personals

Congratulations to HWL member Patricia U. Wong and her husband, attorney James Wong, on the arrival of their twin boys, Jordan Patrick and Cory James, January 7, 1989; and to HWL member Jennifer Lynne Ching and her husband, attorney Stephen Elisha, on the birth of their baby boy, Jonah Ching Elisha, on January 16, 1989.

Reproductive Rights: Love 'Em or Lose 'Em

A march in support of reproductive freedoms is scheduled in Washington, D.C. for April 9, 1989. A similar march is being planned for Honolulu in early April. All persons interested in assisting, or who can suggest interested persons or organizations, please call Marie Kane at 523-7021.

Spousal Abuse: It's A Crying Shame

In one of the great misnomers of the year, Attorney Joel Steinberg and Hedda Nussbaum are referred as "live-in lovers," despite the obvious violence inflicted on Ms. Nussbaum in that relationship. Steinberg was convicted of manslaughter of Ms. Nussbaum's 6-year old child, who also showed signs of prior abuse.

The Domestic Violence Legal Hotline is a much-needed service here in Hawaii, staffed with volunteers from Hawaii Lawyers Care and HWL. The Hotline received over 100 calls in the last half of 1988. The great majority of callers were women needing advice to help prevent violence in their own families. The callers have expressed repeated thanks for having someone who can answer their legal questions in times of potential crisis. If you can help volunteer or provide financial assistance, please call Leslie Hayashi at 521-7740.

Persons who have suffered sexual abuse, incest, or rape are also encouraged to seek out the good folks at the Sex Abuse Treatment Center, via their 24-hour counselling hotline, 524-7273.

News From Hawaii Women Lawyers Foundation

HWLF/HWL Joint Committees seek your support: (1) planning special events at the ABA convention this August in conjunction with the National Association of Women Lawyers and National Conference of Women's Bar Associations; and (2) followup work on the Gender Bias Study for the Chief Justice. Interested persons should contact Joyce Neeley (523-7021) or Ellen Carson (524-1212).

Supreme Court Watch For 1989

The January/February Ms. Magazine provides an interesting survey of 1988-1989 U.S. Supreme Court Cases, appropriately entitled "Courting Disaster":

Abortion: Webster v. Reproductive Health Services. The U.S. Justice Dept. has requested the Supreme Court to reverse **Roe v. Wade**, based on a state law stating that life begins at conception, and barring state hospitals, clinics, or employees from performing any abortion (or even abortion counseling) unless the woman's life is in danger....

Fathers' Rights: (1) Michael H. v. Gerald D. Can a state law presume the husband to be the father of his wife's child, even where another man wishes to prove his paternity? (2) **McNamara v. County of San Diego.** Can the state terminate parental rights of an unwed father who was found to be a fit parent, because the child's mother gave the child up for an adoptive home?

Women's Property Rights: Mansell v. Forbes. Does a divorced wife have a community property interest in her husband's military pay?

Employment Discrimination: Price Waterhouse v. Hopkins. A Big-8 accounting firm denied partnership to a woman whose male colleagues wanted her to walk and talk more femininely, wear makeup and jewelry, and not be harsh and aggressive. If this isn't discrimination, we don't know what is.

National Conference on Women and the Law

The 20th National Conference on Women and the Law will be held in Oakland, California, from March 30 through April 2, 1989. The Conference provides an exciting forum on women's legal issues, attended by a diverse group of attorneys, law students, educators, community advocates, grassroots organizers and judges. HWL members who have attended past conferences have found them very informative and energizing. Since the Conference is in the Pacific region this year, we hope some HWL members will be able to attend. For further information about the 20th Conference, please contact:

20th National Conference on Women and the Law
Box 2
The Women's Building
3543 18th Street
San Francisco, CA 94110
(415) 255-9228.

If you have any announcements you wish to submit for the monthly newsletter, please contact Ellen Godbey Carson at 524-1212, Paul Johnson Alston & Hunt, 1001 Bishop Street, 1300 Pacific Tower, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 by the 3rd of every month.

HWL MEMBERSHIP

If you have not done so already, please renew your membership. Dues are \$25, \$15 (Out of State Members), \$15 (New Admittees), \$5 (Students). Please remit with the following form to HWL, P.O. Box 2072, Honolulu, Hawaii 96805:

Name _____ Business Address _____

Phone _____ Residence Address _____

Please indicate the committees, if any, on which you would be willing to serve _____

Please note any topics or projects in which you are interested _____

Moved? Name change? Receiving duplicates? Please send old mailing label with corrections to HWL, P.O. Box 2072, Honolulu, Hawaii 96805.

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