

HAWAII WOMEN LAWYERS

NEWSLETTER

July/August 1997

President: Susan M. Ichinose 536-3255
Vice President: Rosemary McShane 523-4878
Secretary: Susi Arnett 586-2200
Treasurer: Eri Kashiwabara 544-8300

Directors:

Hazel Beh	956-8638
Nancye Bethurem	438-6720
Calleen Ching	522-0673
Donna Mae Gray	541-2521
Na'unanikina'u Kamali'i	522-7598
Suzanne Terada	533-0011
Magali V. Sunderland	528-3900

Summer Calendar

- **Saturday, July 19**, day-long HWL New Board Retreat.
- **Friday, July 25**, 3:30 p.m., free HSBA workshop "Technology: Hardware and Operating Systems" by Tony Kitchen, HSBA Information Services Manager. HSBA Conference Room. Call Lyn at 537-1868 to reserve a seat.
- **Tuesday, August 5**, 5:30 p.m. Book signing and reception at Restaurant Row. Sponsored by the William S. Richardson School of Law, University of Hawai'i at Manoa. Invitation only. Aloha attire. (See page 3 for details.)
- **Thursday, August 7**, noon, free Lawyer Kokua Brown Bag Lunch Seminar presented by the Young Lawyers Division. "District Court Procedures (Civil Cases)" Speakers will be Hon. Gerald Kibe and Hon. Steven Nakashima, both of District Court, First Circuit. HSBA Conference Room. Call Lyn at 537-1868 for reservations.
- **Tuesday, August 12**, 8:00 a.m. HWL members meet with incoming new law school students over casual breakfast. Courtyard, William S. Richardson School of Law, University of Hawai'i at Manoa. (See page 3 for details.)
- **Friday, August 22**, 3:30 p.m., free continuation of July's HSBA Practice Management Workshop "Technology: Application Software and Networking" by Tony Kitchen, HSBA Information Services Manager. HSBA Conference Room. Call Lyn at 537-1868 to reserve a seat.
- **Saturday, September 27**, 5:30 p.m. "An Evening With Hawai'i's Mayors" HWLF 1997 Fundraiser, Monarch Room, Royal Hawaiian Hotel. Tickets from \$125. Call Mary Houghton at 396-8506 for details.

Election Results Released

New officers and directors attend retreat to plan the year's strategy.

HWL is pleased to announce the results of our election for new officers and members of HWL Board of Directors.

Our new Vice President/President Elect is **Rosemary McShane** of the Family Services Division, Dept. of Corporation Counsel. Rosemary has spearheaded the seemingly endless task of distributing copies of Our Rights, Our Lives to local libraries, schools, social service organizations, etc. Our new Secretary is **Susi Arnett**, from the Office of the Public Defenders. Susi works with the HWL Legislative Committee, submitting testimony and attending endless rounds of legislative committee hearings during the session.

The position of Treasurer was a particularly difficult slot to fill. According to HWL by-laws, the treasurer must be both an attorney and a CPA. Although we will miss Rebecca Williams, who has done a fine job of keeping us in the black since January of 1995, we are delighted to welcome our new Treasurer, **Eri Kashiwabara** from Watanabe Ing & Kawashima.

Newly elected and incumbent board members are:

- **Donna Mae Gray** from the Federal Public Defenders Office, now in her tenth year of criminal defense practice representing the indigent accused in federal court. Donna is a member of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers and a sustaining member of the Junior League of Honolulu which she joined in 1983. But she is most proud of the fact that her daughter will be entering law school this Fall at the University of San Diego Law School.
- **Na'u Kamali'i** Before becoming manager of program development with from Queens Health Plans, Na'u was in private practice in family law and probate. She is a Fellow of the Asian Pacific American Women's Leadership Institute (APAWLI), a group whose mission is to address the specific challenges facing Asian & Pacific American women as leaders, and to nurture culturally competent trusteeship within our communities. "We're always looking for community leaders to apply as Fellows," says Na'u. "Just call me and I'll tell you how to apply." Na'u is also deeply involved with the Native Hawaiian Bar Association on the Ho'oponopo Project. "In my spare time, I'm really into canoe paddling and hope to do the Molokai race this summer. No, change that from hope to will.....I will do Molokai."
- Immediate Past President **Magali V. Sunderland** of Trecker & Fritz, whose invaluable work on our Legislative Committee has been so important in the past few years. Magali is married with two children. Her hobby is working.
- **Suzanne Terada** who is a sole practitioner doing civil litigation with an emphasis on personal injury law, contracts and family law. She also does criminal defense work. Suzanne is married to attorney Harvey Henderson. She has one son.
- **Calleen Ching** who was in the very first graduating class at William S. Richardson School of Law, was also an original attorney at the Hawai'i Civil Rights Commission. She has worked as a per diem judge in family court.

(continued inside on page 3)

August 5th Reception and Book Signing at Restaurant Row

On Tuesday, August 5th, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., the William S. Richardson School of Law will sponsor a reception honoring authors Mari J. Matsuda and Charles R. Lawrence, III. Their new book, We Won't Go Back: Making the Case for Affirmative Action, is now available at several local bookstores (when we called around, both Borders and Honolulu Book Shops had it in stock).

Mari Matsuda, former Richardson Professor of Law and Class of '80 alumni, is presently a part-time Hawai'i resident, spending part of each year in Washington, D.C. where she and her husband, Charles Lawrence, are both professors at Georgetown Law Center. On July 15th, HWL interviewed Mari Matsuda in Honolulu about her latest venture.

HWL: *What made you decide to write this book?*

Matsuda: "First of all, I am a beneficiary of affirmative action. As an Asian American woman and an African American man, my husband and I share many experiences in the areas of prejudice. We both know so many brilliant people whose genius was brought to light through affirmative action programs, and we wanted to be able to tell their stories; people like Barbara Babcock, who also taught at Richardson School of Law, and Judge LaDoris Cordell, who broke ground as one of the first women judges in California."

HWL: *What makes them special?*

Matsuda: "The kind of *people* that they have turned out to be. For instance, Diane Ho is a terrific attorney on Maui. But in addition to that, she is doing amazing things with at-risk kids; and she's doing it all pro bono. When she was first recruited to Richardson, she was a very non-traditional student: part Hawaiian, a single parent beginning a second career.

"Lots of lawyers in Hawai'i know her primarily as an athlete. She's an accomplished paddler as well as the quarterback for the Richardson alumni football team. But most people don't know how much she is giving back to the community through her work with these kids."

HWL: *Affirmative action programs are having a difficult time right now, especially on the mainland.*

Matsuda: Absolutely. The public discourse on affirmative action is very negative. A lot of the resistance comes from people who, frankly, don't want to share the power. Affirmative action policies have allowed a positive light to break through the good-old-boy's network and made it possible to level the playing field. Not everyone wants that to happen."

HWL: *Other authors have been very supportive of this book. We've seen accolades from writers like Jonathan Kozol (author of Savage Inequalities), Patricia Williams, Marian Wright Edelman and Howard Zinn (A People's History of the United States),*

in which this work has been called "a remarkable collaboration," "a transcendent work," and "a moral essay in the grand tradition of DuBois and Dewey, John Hope Franklin and John Kenneth Galbraith."
Is this your first book?

Matsuda: "No my first project actually came about when I was editing a joint HWL/HWLF venture entitled Called From Within - Early Women Lawyers of Hawai'i. This book is a collection of essays and articles about legal pioneers like Patsy Mink, Harriet Bouslog and Betty Morrison Vitousek. The experience showed me just how much discrimination has affected women in Hawai'i. When I first took the bar, many law firms had no women partners at all. At that time, there had never been a woman elected president of the HSBA. We had so few role models."

HWL: *How did your association with HWL make a difference?*

Matsuda: "I was an active volunteer with HWL back in the days when Susan Oki Mollway was president. We did sexual harassment workshops for the legislature and for all kinds of local big business. I also sat on the board of the Foundation. We worked hard to initiate change. But there are lots of professions where we still don't see women in leadership positions. We see mostly white men, mostly mainland white men.

"Jo Kim brought a civil rights action against the local news media during the '70s. As a result, the television stations instituted some affirmative action policies. But we still have nothing even close to parity. The news anchors are still overwhelmingly male. This is important because the media is where the power is; it's where the masses get their daily information. The editorial positions control public opinion; it's where people form their ideas and beliefs. And all of their images of leadership are white men. Obviously, we still need affirmative action."

HWL: *What is the price of the book?*

Matsuda: "It costs \$25. We will be selling and signing copies at the reception on August 5th. A portion of the proceeds from the book sales at that event will sponsor the 1997 Matsuda/Lawrence Scholarship Award for a pre-admissions student. The scholarship will be presented at August 25th Law school Convocation.

HWL: *Can anyone attend the reception?*

Matsuda: "Seating capacity at the Jamaican Cuisine Bar and Grill at Restaurant Row is about 90. The reception is by invitation only. However, if any Hawai'i Women Lawyers or HWLF members want to attend, we will be happy to make room. Just call Eileen Broms, Director of Development at the UH Law School. Her number is 956-6545."

Other publications by this author include:

Where is Your Body?

Essays on Race, Gender and the Law

Words That Wound: Critical Race Theory,

Assultive Speech, and the First Amendment

New Board Members Take Office

(continued from page 1)

Calleen Ching is now Project Coordinator of Americorps (students and advocates for victims of domestic violence). A gourmet cook who has taken cooking courses in France, Calleen also writes poetry and has been published in Advertiser Haiku column.

- **Hazel Beh**, who is Ass't Professor at William S. Richardson School of Law, has a long history of social services. Prior to earning her law degree, she earned a Masters in Social Work and a Ph.D. in American Studies and practiced geriatric social work in Hawaii for ten years. She was the Research & Appellate Coordinator at the City and County of Honolulu Corporation Counsel before joining her alma mater first as its Acting Associate Dean and now as an Assistant Professor of Law, teaching contracts and advanced Torts & Insurance Law.
- **Nancye L. Bethurem**, an environmental lawyer and a feminist. Nancye is a member of the HWL President's Circle. She currently holds a position with the National Association of Women Attorneys as Regional Director for the state of Hawai'i. Additionally, Nancye is a member of the National Conference of Women's Bar Associations, the Margaret Brent League of the American Bar Association, the National Organization for Women, The American Association of University women and the Network of Professional Women. She is married, the mother of two sons, and a great lover of "anything that can be done in the water."



HWL To Meet with New Students at Orientation Day Breakfast, August 12th

Sheila Vierra and her committee have announced that on August 12th at 8:00 a.m., HWL will host a casual breakfast for incoming law students in the Courtyard at the William S. Richardson School of Law at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. The orientation breakfast is an offshoot of the HWL Mentor/Membership Program.

Sheila has been working closely with Ass't. Dean Carol Mon Lee on this project. The breakfast is a way of introducing the new law students to the established legal community in Hawai'i.

HWL is looking for volunteer lawyers who would be willing to briefly sit one-on-one with these students, over a cup of coffee, and answer their questions. The questions may range from "What is HWL?" to "How did you get your first job?"

If you can still remember your fist day of law school, and are willing to share your experience with a new student, please call Sheila Vierra at 538-0520.

Nominations for HSBA Awards

Nominations are now being accepted by the Hawai'i State Bar Association for two awards to be presented at December's Bar Convention.

Ki`e ki`e Award for Pro Bono Work

Ki`e ki`e Award recognizes an attorney for outstanding provision of professional legal services at no charge to the recipient such as:

- pro bono expenditure of time on a case of great public import having a broad effect upon the legal rights or interests of a large segment of the community or the community as a whole;
- extraordinary expenditure of pro bono time in cases above and beyond the normal expenditure of pro bono time within one's employment; expenditure of substantial pro bono time and professional resources as a "private attorney general" on a matter of great public interest or concern where the appropriate government legal officer has refused, neglected or otherwise failed to take action;
- the maintenance, establishment and/or devotion of a tremendous amount of professional time, beyond one's normal professional obligations in pro bono work in a historical sense.

Golden Gavel Award for Judiciary Work

Golden Gavel Award recognizes an attorney or non-attorney for outstanding service to the state or federal judiciary in Hawaii, such as:

- activities relating to court practice and procedures;
- activities relating to new or innovative projects regarding the Judiciary;
- outstanding service having an effect directly or indirectly upon the fair and efficient provision of justice by the Judiciary.

Nominations should include the name, address, phone number and supporting statement of the qualifications of the nominee, and need to be received by the HSBA Awards Committee no later than September 5, 1997. These awards will be presented at the HSBA Annual Membership Meeting at the Bar Convention on December 10, 1997.

All nominations should be sent to:

HSBA Awards Committee
1136 Union Mall, Penthouse 1
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Please call Iris Ito at the HSBA Office (537-1868) if you need additional information.

Correction

In last month's Chop Sui Generis column we reported that Susan Liu had a new office. However the phone number we printed was incorrect. The *correct* new phone number for Susan Liu is 545-3011.

LETTERS, WE GET LETTERS.....

Editor's note: We get letters from time to time, expressing appreciation for a particular program or offering suggestions for ways to expand the scope of the organization. HWL welcomes your thoughts on any appropriate subject. We reserve the right to edit letters, due to space constraints. The following is a small sampling of letters received during the past eight weeks.

Thank you for making "OUR RIGHTS, OUR LIVES" available. As a professional, these books will be a tremendous resource for the work I do with college students. But as a woman, I am extremely grateful that the lawyers in your association took time to present valuable material in a concise and user-friendly fashion. Again, thank you for the work you've done in making this series available.

Aulii-Ann Pila
Kapi'olani Community College

I have a copy of your association's "Our Rights, Our Lives....A Guide to Women's Legal Rights in Hawai'i,".....Your publication is very well written and informative. Congratulations on such a wonderful community service effort for the women of Hawai'i.

Georgette N. Stevens-Begley
Soroptomist International of West O'ahu

Thank you for sharing the booklets relating to Women's Rights. I especially appreciate the copies as my office is in charge of EEOC actions. You are to be commended for this excellent project.

Richard H. Haake, Managing Director
County of Maui

HAWAII WOMEN LAWYERS
P.O. Box 2072
Honolulu, Hawaii 96805

Thank you very much for your most generous donation of 5 sets of your recent publication, Our Rights, Our Lives. A set has been cataloged and deposited in the Supreme Court Law Library and each of the circuit court libraries in Hilo, Kona, Wailuku and Lihue. We really do appreciate your continuing support of the Hawai'i State Law Library System.

Irene Wong
The Supreme Court Law Library

Thank you for keeping the Senate informed via your press conference concerning the Hawaii State Clearinghouse for Missing Children. You got a lot of good coverage out of the event. Please be assured that I will always do my best to keep the Clearinghouse alive.

Andrew Levin
Senator, Third District

This letter is to commend you in your successful efforts to secure funding the Hawai'i State Clearinghouse for Missing Children during the nineteenth legislative session. I want you to know that I applaud and support your efforts to raise awareness for the Missing Child Center. The safety and well-being of our keiki is of great importance to me, and I will do all I can to ensure that this program continues to be adequately funded. Please call me if I can ever be of further assistance to you.

David A. Pendleton
House of Representatives, 50th District

**BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
HONOLULU, HI
PERMIT NO. 172**