

RHODE ISLAND WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

2020 CLE SERIES: WOMEN PARTICIPATING IN DEMOCRACY & LEADERSHIP

Our annual CLE series this year is *Women Participating in Democracy & Leadership*. Timed with the centennial anniversary of the 19th Amendment that gave women the right to vote, the series will highlight all of the ways women can join in and become leaders in our democracy. Remember, this series is FREE to members and a great way to catch up on CLE credits!



Our next CLE will be a luncheon on **Thursday, April 2, from 12:00 pm to 1:30 pm** at Locke Lord. Etie-Lee Schaub will moderate a panel discussion entitled "*Run Like A Womxn: Election Law and Campaigning in Rhode Island*" featuring Erin Lynch Prata (Rhode Island State Senator, District 31), Dawn Euer (Rhode Island State Senator, District 13), Rebecca Kislak (Rhode Island State Representative, District 4) and Carolyn Medina (Member, Bristol Democratic Town Committee).

1.5 CLE credits pending approval, including .5 ethics credit. RSVP [here](#).

In the meantime, feel free to start plotting the political campaigns of your fellow RIWBA members through the non-profit [She Should Run](#).

And watch this spot for details on the rest of the CLE series, coming later this spring!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

MARCH

Thursday, March 5, 2020. Don't miss this chance to ask questions, share experiences, and participate in a meaningful conversation with two of our state's federal judges (including the newest member of the bench)! RIWBA members will have a unique opportunity for a dialogue with The Honorable John J. McConnell, Jr and The Honorable Mary S. McElroy from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the United States District Court for the District of Rhode Island in downtown Providence. See the attached flyer for more information, and RSVP directly to Kelly McGee at Kelly.McGee@lifespan.org.



Friday, March 6, 2020. The Rhode Island Center for the Book is hosting an event with Chelsea Clinton! Chelsea's book *Start Now!* has been selected as the Elementary Companion to Read for Rising, the 2020 Reading Across Rhode Island book. The Center for the Book is raising funds to help purchase Chelsea's book for South Providence Library, Robert L. Bailey School and Sophia Academy. *Start Now!* breaks down the concepts of health, hunger, climate change, endangered species and bullying, so that readers can understand the world around them, and how they can make a difference in their own lives, as well as in their communities and the world at large. If you are interested in learning more about The Rhode Island Center for the Book, click [here](#).

APRIL

Thursday, April 9, 2020. Come watch the impressive moves at Dancing with the Stars of Mentoring 2020 at Rhodes on the Pawtuxet from 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.! (You might even spot RIWBA member **Deb George** on stage!) Proceeds from the event go to help MENTOR Rhode Island expand opportunities for youth to connect with mentors. It's an evening of fun, dance, food, and a great silent auction, all to support Mentor RI. Learn more about the event, including how to register and support Mentor RI, [here](#).

MEMBERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS:

Thank you for an amazing start to our 2020 CLE series! We kicked off our *Women Participating in Democracy and Leadership 2020* CLE Series on February 15 with a lively discussion about leadership and using our power to effectuate change. A big thank you to RIWBA Emeritus Committee Members The Honorable Justice O. Rogeriee Thompson and Melody Alger for presenting on this important topic.



Join our Board! The Rhode Island Women's Bar Association is now accepting applications for 2 open positions on the Board of Directors for the 2020-2021 membership year. Please see the attached announcement for more information. All interested applicants should submit a letter of interest and resume to Kelly McGee at kelly.mcgee@lifespan.org by March 2, 2020.

MEMBERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS, CONTINUED:

Thank you to our members who attended our latest Coffee & Conversation on January 28! Kate Ahern of www.unfrazzleandshine.com shared strategies to tackle our professional and personal goals in a more manageable and meaningful way. Many attendees shared their own challenges with pushing the needle forward on goals, and the group worked collectively to provide ideas for achieving those 2020 ambitions. Everyone left feeling ready to tackle the New Year!



Want to brag on one of your fellow members? Including yourself? [Email Stephanie Simon](#) so that we can include those accomplishments in a future edition!

ARTICLES AND RESOURCES OF INTEREST:

A New Book Tackles the Last Fifty Years of Supreme Court Precedent. Making the case that for decades, the Supreme Court has sided with the rich over the poor, with the powerful over the vulnerable, Adam Cohen explores the court's decisions in great detail and makes a case for its most "enduring" bias: inequality. Read Michael O'Donnell's review of the book [here](#). (*The Atlantic*)

Helpful Resource for Calculating Deadlines. Sick of staring at your calendar and trying to do math in your head? [This free online calculator](#) does the work for you of calculating anything from the number of days until a certain date, the date that arrives after a certain number of days, and everything in between. (*Time and Date Calculator*)

Looking for one simple way to stay on top of developments in your practice area? Why not subscribe to a law blog (known, somewhat disturbingly, as a "blawg") and keep up with the latest developments? Or better yet, why not start one yourself? Start here, with [the ABA's comprehensive list](#) of more than 4,500 "blawgs." (*ABA Journal*)

ARTICLES AND RESOURCES OF INTEREST:

Who Wouldn't Want to Meet Their *Best Friends at the Bar*? We're loving [this blog](#) aimed squarely at women lawyers, with plenty of relevant content about what women need to know about a career in the law, and a few books if you want to take your reading off-screen. (*Best Friends at the Bar*)



The #MeToo Movement Reaches the Ninth Circuit. [Unsettling new testimony](#) from a former law clerk to Judge Stephen Reinhardt revealed the depth of the late judge's misconduct. Her brave decision to speak out may encourage others to come forward, and spur major changes in how the federal judiciary deals with this ongoing issue. (*Law.com*)

More Resources from the U.S. Small Business Administration. Check out the attached articles from the SBA on *How to Choose Productivity Software that Empowers Employees* and *What's New for Your Retirement Plans in 2020?* These helpful articles are a great resource for understanding the business side of the practice of law.

EMPLOYMENT AND OPPORTUNITIES:

Mid-Level Corporate Attorney. Howell Legal Inc. is looking for a mid-level corporate attorney with at least four years of experience to join their small-but-growing team and lead transactions and client relationships. Learn more about this great opportunity [here](#).

Employment Litigation Associate. Partridge Snow & Hahn LLP is looking for an employment litigation associate with 3-5 years of experience in commercial litigation and/or employment law for its Providence office. Candidates must be admitted to practice in Rhode Island, have excellent credentials, a strong desire to practice law and develop one's practice over time, and have strong research, drafting, writing and communication skills. Apply [here](#).

EMPLOYMENT AND OPPORTUNITIES CONTINUED:

Associate Attorney. Adler, Cohen, Harvey, Wakeman & Guekguezian, LLP is a boutique, midsize, civil litigation firm with offices in Boston, Providence, and New Hampshire. The firm seeks to hire an attorney admitted to the Rhode Island Bar with 1-5 years of experience for a full-time associate position. We seek an accomplished, motivated individual with a demonstrated interest in civil litigation and superior writing ability. Admission to Connecticut a plus. The firm specializes in professional liability defense work and handles complex medical malpractice, product liability, and toxic exposure cases. Please send resumes to Brian Fielding at bfielding@adlercohen.com or 55 Dorrance Street - Suite 302, Providence, RI 02903.

Real Estate Attorney. Robinson+Cole seeks an Attorney with at least two years of experience to join its Real Estate and Development practice group in its Boston office. Qualified candidates will have significant experience representing clients in real estate and finance transactional matters including commercial real estate lending, construction lending, loan participation, loan work outs, foreclosures, reviewing title and survey, condominium, commercial leasing, real estate acquisitions and dispositions. The candidate must have substantial experience reviewing due diligence work related to zoning, survey and title issues with a special emphasis on title insurance and endorsements. [Click here to apply](#), and please include a cover letter, resume and transcript. More information can be found [here](#).

Treasurer Position. [Aldersbridge Communities](#) is a non-profit that operates a skilled nursing and assisted living facility and is looking for someone to assume the role of treasurer on its board. If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity, please contact [Gina Pellicano](#).

Board Position. [The Rhode Island Coalition for the Homeless](#) works collaboratively to create and advance lasting solutions to prevent and end homelessness in Rhode Island. The Coalition's board currently consists of representatives from various non-profits in Rhode Island, including Sojourner House, Amos House, United Way, Crossroads Island, and the WARM Center. If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity, please contact [Gina Pellicano](#).

Are you hiring? Know someone looking for a top-notch applicant for an open legal position? [Email Stephanie Simon](#) to add an opportunity to our Employment section.

MONTHLY MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:

The Monthly Member Spotlight is your cheat sheet to the incredible women who are your fellow RIWBA members. Keep an eye on your inbox, because you might be next!

This month, we are delighted to spotlight **Kathryn Rattigan**, an Associate at Robinson+Cole LLP. Read on to learn more about Kathryn!

MONTHLY MEMBER SPOTLIGHT, CONTINUED:

What was your first paying job?

When I was 16 I began working at Olympia Sports as a sales associate. I ended up working there all throughout high school and during college breaks, too. To this day I can still tell you all about sneakers and NBA/NFL/NHL/MLB players that were popular in the early 2000s!

If we peeked into your fridge, what would we see?

Lots of leftovers (pizza most often), cashew milk, kids yogurt pouches, strawberries (and chocolate hummus), many flavors of seltzer water, a variety of cheeses and Macintosh apples.

Can you share something about yourself that others would be surprised to learn?

I love to practice yoga and meditation. I took my love for meditation (and the NEED for meditation) to a new level one year by attending a three-day silent retreat in Barre, Massachusetts at the Insight Meditation Center (which I discovered after reading the book by Dan Harris, "10% Happier"). Upon arrival, you vow to silence for 72 hours straight; that means in addition to no speaking or interacting with others (aside from a few non-verbal cues), no electronic devices, no pen or paper and no books were allowed. It was extremely difficult, but one of the most rewarding and peaceful experiences I have ever had.

Where is your favorite place in the world?

Plop me on a beach in the sun and I couldn't be happier. But more specifically, I loved traveling to St. Lucia. During my trip, I climbed to the top of the volcanic Gros Piton, 2,619 feet above sea level. While the hike was quite difficult, the views at the top were breathtaking. We hope to go back soon.

What is the last book you read?

Honestly, "Old McDonald Had a Truck" (EVERY night with my two-year old son). But for myself, "Why Mommy Drinks" by Gill Sims.



MONTHLY MEMBER SPOTLIGHT, CONTINUED:

In fifty words or fewer, describe what you want other RIWBA members to know about your practice.

At Robinson & Cole LLP I am a member of the firm's Business Litigation Group and Data Privacy + Cybersecurity Team. I advise clients on data privacy and cybersecurity, data breach mitigation and remediation, and compliance with related state and federal laws. I also provide legal advice regarding the use of drones for data collection, and Federal Aviation Administration regulations. I represent clients across all industries, such as technology, insurance, health care, education, energy, and construction.

NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE:

Have something you would like to see in the next newsletter? Let us know by **Friday, March 6th** to include it in the latest edition. And as always, thanks for reading!

Kelly Kincaid, Chantal Bromage, Jessica Rider, Stephanie Simon & Sam Vasques

RIWBA Newsletter Committee