



Summer/Fall/Winter 2017

www.nrbar.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



My Dear Colleagues and Friends:

Welcome to the end of year NRBA Newsletter! As we get ready to close out this calendar year, I can look back with pride and appreciation for all the great events and CLEs we have held and offered to you, our members. The NRBA closed out the 2017 calendar year with a fun-filled evening as we celebrated our annual Holiday Party at the Fountainhead. We are looking forward to an eventful 2018. To fully enjoy all your Bar Association has to offer starting in January of next year, I urge you to renew your membership and pay the 2018 NRBA dues by the end of 2017. The annual dues, remaining at \$100, are still a bargain. Your prompt payment of the 2018 dues will be greatly appreciated and will make sure that you are not closed out from attending a CLE or that you have to pay more to attend one of our events.

The current 2017/2018 NRBA calendar includes ten continuing legal education programs on a variety of important and timely topics. This fall, the NRBA instituted a new program with the Boys and Girls Club of New Rochelle for high school students. Here NRBA attorneys have volunteered to meet bi-

weekly with the students to discuss various topics, including teenager rights and laws that impact on students. NRBA's award winning "Lawyer in the Classroom" program will once again return next spring to the New Rochelle City School District's 5th grade classes. NRBA attorneys are continuing to serve as Small Claims Court arbitrators in the New Rochelle City Court. In addition, the NRBA membership and guests attended the September Installation Dinner, the October dinner with the new Westchester District Attorney Anthony Scarpino, Jr., and the December Holiday Party.

On January 10, 2018 the annual Surrogates' Dinner will be held at Juliano's Caterers. Then, on February 27, 2018, the Board is planning to hold the first ever NRBA bowling night at New Roc. The 11th Annual Court of Appeals Dinner on April 17th is expected to be, once again, the legal highlight of the NRBA 2018 calendar. The 2017/2018 season will end with the annual picnic and election of officers in June at Five Islands Park. There is just so much going on with the NRBA. So, it pays to belong.

We look forward to your participation in the NRBA's programs and to seeing you at the CLEs.

Yours,

Jeffrey Levin



Installation Dinner of the New NRBA Officers and Directors

On September 14, 2017, the NRBA held its annual Installation reception for new officers and directors who were elected at the June 17, 2017 Annual Meeting and Picnic. The Installation was held at Patsy's Pizzeria held the installation and the Hon. Daniel D. Angiolillo swore in the new Board: **Hon. Jeffrey Levin**, President; **Michele Tombini** and **Ronald Zezima**, Vice Presidents; **Andrew Buder**, Treasurer; and **Lori Corini**, Secretary. The Directors are: **Warren Agaston**, **Frank DiMarco**, **Mike Faust**, **Mark Griffin**, **David Lacher**, **Damon Maher**, **Jennifer Pasquantonio**, **Richard Sosis** and **Richard Weiss**.

We would like to thank Judge Angiolillo for once again swearing in the officers and directors of the NRBA, and Michael Lisk of Record and Return Title Agency, Inc. for generously sponsoring the Installation.



Hon. Daniel Angiolillo swearing in President Jeff Levin.

Notable guests included the Hon. John Colangelo (Acting Supreme Court Justice) and New Rochelle Public Library Foundation President Chris Selin.

Westchester County District Attorney Dinner

On October 18, 2017, the NRBA held its first dinner honoring the Westchester County District Attorney, the Hon. Anthony Scarpino, Jr.



Westchester County District Attorney Anthony Scarpino, Jr.

The house was full of members and colleagues who gathered at Posto Restaurant to welcome our new DA and be a part of this first time event. Some of the guests included students from New Rochelle High School, participants in the new collaboration between NRBA and NR Boys & Girls Club.



N.R.H.S. students Jesus Torres (right) and Juan Ruiz-Diaz, from the New Rochelle Boys and Girls Club, with Westchester County District Attorney Anthony Scarpino, Jr. (center).

Our Annual Holiday Gala

On December 12, 2017, the NRBA held its annual Holiday Gala once again at the fabulous Fountainhead in New Rochelle. The event was again generously sponsored by **Ralph J. Berardi, Jr.** of **Pepe/Berardi Capital, LLC** and **Quantum Mortgage Corp.** NRBA Members, friends and notable guests enjoyed cocktails, a scrumptious buffet dinner, delicious desserts and dancing to a live DJ. We want to thank our V.P. **Michele Tombini** for her incredible job of once again chairing this festive and enjoyable event.



Hon. Walter Rivera (NY Court of Claims) and Westchester County District Attorney Anthony Scarpino, Jr.



NYS Assembly Member Amy Paulin, First Deputy District Attorney Eileen Songer-McCarthy, and Westchester County Legislator James Maisano.



Hon. John Coangelo, former NRBA President Laurie Korngold and NRBA member Carmelina DiMarco.



NRBA VP Michele Tombini and Pres. Hon. Jeffrey Levin



NRBA members: team coach Richard Grayson and Paul Korngold.



Hon. Barbara Zambelli, Hon. Bob Ollman, Hon. Susan Kettner and Hon. Susan Capeci



Our Sponsor-NRBA member Ralph J. Berardi, Jr.



SMALL CLAIMS COURT UPDATE**By "Mike" Faust, Esq.**

The members of the NRBA have continually volunteered their time as Arbitrators for the N.R. Small Claims Court. It is time again for our members to volunteer as arbitrators.

Being an arbitrator is interesting and rewarding. Our Arbitrators: 1) help the New Rochelle City Court move its calendar; 2) help litigants avoid lengthy delays in Court hearings; and 3) earn a sense of pride, as attorneys in our community, that we have not only served the court system but also gained valuable practical experience.

The Small Claims Court handles claims up to \$5,000 including, but not limited to, commercial disputes, landlord-tenant matters, housing violations, property damage and breach of contract matters.

As an aid to the Court, members of the NRBA, with consent of the individual litigants, arbitrate many of those cases. These attorneys, who volunteer their time, listen to, settle and/or determine individual cases. While helping the Court to keep an efficient calendar, Arbitrators get the invaluable experience of learning how a case appears from the perspective of a judge.

An attorney can volunteer his/her time if they have been admitted to the Bar for five (5) or more years. Separate training is not necessary. The attorney can hear and/or settle one, two or more cases in a single afternoon.

The N.R. Small Claims Court meets once a month on Wednesdays, starting at 2:00 P.M. until approximately 4:30 P.M. If you want to volunteer your time as an Arbitrator to help in Small Claims Court on any one, or all, of the below dates at 2:00 P.M., please contact "Mike" Faust at mfaust@mfaustlaw.com.

January 10, 2018**February 7, 2018****March 7, 2018****April 11, 2018** (more dates to follow)

Volunteering as an Arbitrator is a worthwhile opportunity for members of the NRBA!

**NRBA LAWYER IN THE CLASSROOM
UPDATE****By Ronald V. Zezima, Esq.**

Last year, our program was enthusiastically received by 740 5th grade students, each of whom received a Certificate of Completion signed by Dr. Brian Osborne, the Superintendent of Schools, and by our NRBA President, Jeffrey Levin. We would like to thank the following volunteers, who made this program a success:

**Conroy, Katherine
Coverdale, Tamika
Dallos, Laurie
Dorfman, Jerry
Fiori, Kerry
Fowler, Jennifer
Furfero, Joyce
Giacobbe, John
Grayson, Richard
Johnson Kelly, Paula
Kettner, Susan
Lacher, David**

**Leeson, Wendy
Levin, Jeffrey
Levy, Carol
Malfetano, Vincent
Malthurin, Shemika
McCloskey, Brian
Moore, Eli
Nesci, Vincent
Ochacher, Perry
Rackman, Shari
Rosenberg, Eric
Sanchez, Maddalena
Zezima, Ronald**

In April 2018, NRBA member Joyce Furfero, a professor at St. John's University, and Corey Andrews, a 5th grade teacher at Ward Elementary School, will conduct a 2 credit CLE training session for our volunteers. The volunteer lawyers will review case materials used in the course to explain

basic concepts of constitutional law and will learn how to appropriately convey the subject matter to fifth graders. The classroom presentations will take place on four consecutive weeks in the month of May 2018.

This project is approved for Pro Bono credit by the Office of Court Administration. If you can spare an afternoon once a week in May 2018 and are looking for an interesting Pro Bono project, contact Ronald Zezima at rvzesq@aol.com.



**COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE NRBA
AND THE NEW ROCHELLE BOYS AND
GIRLS CLUB
By Ronald Zezima, Esq.**

In September, 2017 officers of the NRBA met with the Executive Director of the New Rochelle Boys & Girls Club ("NRBGC"), to discuss formation of a "Law Club," and began a new collaborative effort.

We need volunteer attorneys who are available for an hour after work twice a month to meet with students to discuss legal topics for this exciting new venture. For those of you who may not be familiar with the work of the Boys and Girls Club, it is a nationwide organization with two "clubhouses" in New Rochelle, servicing approximately 900 children, grades 1 through 12. The two clubhouse facilities, one known as The Mascaro Center (located on 7th Street next to Columbus Elementary School) and the other known as Remington (located next to Montefiore New Rochelle Hospital), run various types of programs from 3 P.M. until 10 P.M. in the evening every day.

Lutonya Hume, the Director of the NRBGC, selected 18 "Keystone" high school students ranging in age from 13 to 17 to participate in our initial programs. A "Meet and Greet" with the participating students was held at the Remington Center on November 1st at 5 P.M. Ten volunteer attorneys met with the students over pizza and soft drinks and described their particular practice areas. The students then completed a survey designed to elicit information about their interests, and the results indicated their desires to learn more about three particular areas of law: civil rights, criminal and immigration law.

On November 15th at 6:00 P.M., Jared Rice presented the first program, "Basics of Civil Rights in Criminal Proceedings", followed by the students breaking up into small discussion groups, each led by an attorney. Our second program was held on November 29th, and was led by Paula Johnson Kelly who focused on Civil Rights in civil cases. The third session held on December 13th led by me discussed Estate law. Future programs will cover Immigration Law, Real Estate Law and Wills and Trusts.

We need a variety of volunteers to present and lead discussions in other areas of law. For further information and to volunteer, contact Ron Zezima at rvzesq@aol.com.



COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE NRBA AND THE NEW ROCHELLE PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION UPDATE

By Ronald V. Zezima, Esq.

On May 20, 2017, the NRBA and New Rochelle Public Library Foundation ("NRPLF") cosponsored a presentation and discussion at the Ossie Davis Theater of the New Rochelle Public Library about topics relating to buying and selling a home, such as how to avoid common pitfalls; when to consult an attorney; preparing a house for sale; what is staging; choosing a realtor; and what to expect when closing the deal. Presenters included NRBA Vice President **Michele Tombini, Esq.** Realtor Gary Leogrande of Hudson Gateway Multiple Listing Service, and Professional Stager Karen Prince, President of Rivertowns Staging. On September 25, 2017, the NRBA and NRPLF presented the process of separation and divorce. NRBA member **Patricia Bave, Esq.** was the presenter at this well attended event. We look forward to future collaborations with the New Rochelle Public Library Foundation, and invite any members interested in conducting a workshop for the public at the Library to contact NRBA Vice President **Ronald Zezima, Esq.** at: rvzesq@aol.com.



NRBA FUTURE CLEs

1. January 23, 2018: *After Foreclosure Post-Eviction Proceeding*, by Hon. Ira Clair, at Sterling National Bank, 21 Scarsdale Road, Yonkers.
2. February 20, 2018: *The Bernhard Goetz Matter*, by Hon. Barry Salman, location TBD.
3. March 2018: *Ethics*, by Richard Grayson, Esq. and Joseph Ruhl. Title, date and location TBD.
4. April 2018: *Lawyer in the Classroom* by Joyce Furfero, Esq. and Cory Andrews, date and location TBD.
5. May 15, 2018: *Basics of Criminal Law*, by Andrew Rubin, Esq., location TBD.
6. June 2018: *Art Law* by Ray Dowd, Esq. and Hon. Barbara Jaffe, date and location TBD.

The NRBA would encourage each of you to send us your suggestions for programs and speakers.

After each CLE the NRBA has continued to donate the surplus dinners to the Open Arms Men's Shelter in White Plains.

Expect to receive advance notices with particulars by e-mail of these and future CLEs. Information will also be posted at www.nrbar.org.

UPCOMING CLES:

For information on and reservations for our CLEs, or suggestions for future CLE topics, please contact

Jeffrey L. Levin, Esq. at

jeffrey.levin.law@gmail.com



A REMINDER ABOUT OUR SPONSORS

The following individuals and institutions have sponsored our CLEs and events in the past. We thank them for their support and ask our members to seriously consider engaging them for their services.

Appellate Printers:

Helen Mezger of Appellate Innovations,
3 Barker Avenue, 2nd Floor, White Plains, NY 10601.
Cell: (203) 232-1764.

Banks:

Anthony J. Forgione of Sterling National Bank,
21 Scarsdale Road, Yonkers, NY 10707
Cell: (914) 922-9429

Adam Kintish of TD Bank,
107 Chatsworth Avenue, Larchmont, NY 10538.
Cell: (914) 960-4243

Joseph A. Ruhl, Esq. of Orange Bank & Trust, 42
Waller Avenue, White Plains, NY 10601.
Cell: (914) 260-3475

Financial Advisors:

James Alperin, Financial Advisor at **Morgan Stanley Wealth Management,** One Fawcett Place,
3rd Floor, Greenwich, CT 06830. Cell: (917) 697-1581.

Keith D. Munroe of Morgan Stanley,
1 Blue Hill Plaza, Suite 100, Pearl River, NY, 10965
Tel: (845) 731-2931.

Mortgage Brokers:

Ralph J. Berardi, Jr. of Pepe/Berardi Capital, LLC
and **Quantum Mortgage Corp.,** 211 South Ridge
Street, Second Floor, Rye Brook, New York 10573.
Cell: (914) 329-6375

Real Estate Brokers:

Michele Silverman Bedell, of Silversons Realty LLC, 6 Palmer Avenue, Scarsdale, NY 10583
Cell: (914) 906-4376.

Miriam “Lori” Morrow of Keller Williams Realty,
120 Bloomingdale Road, White Plains, NY 10804.
Cell: (914) 260-5349

Title Insurance Companies:

David Baron and Daniel Bokol of TitleVest,
44 Wall Street, New York, NY 10005.
Tel: (212) 757-580.

Brett Forman of First Nationwide Title (an AmTrust Financial Company), 220 East 42nd Street,
Suite 3105, New York, NY 10017.
Cell: (917) 837-6358

Christine Gagliardi of TitleVest,
235 Mamaroneck Avenue, Suite 303, White Plains,
NY 10605. Tel: (914) 304-8100 ext. 382

Holly Hasbrouck of Stewart Title Insurance Company, 707 Westchester Ave., Suite 302,
White Plains, NY 10604. Cell: (914) 552-0756.

Michael Lisk of Record and Return Title Agency, Inc., 7 Dempsey Place, Eastchester, NY 10709.
Tel: (914) 395-2285

Roseanne Picone of Benchmark Title Agency, LLC, 222 Bloomingdale Road, Suite 102
White Plains, NY 10605. Cell: (914) 422-1550.

Nancy A. Scovotti of The Great American Title Agency Inc., 170 Hamilton Avenue, Suite 207 White
Plains, NY 10601. Cell: (914) 841-6229.

Others:

Kommer Bave & Ollman LLP, 145 Huguenot
Street, Suite 402, New Rochelle, NY 10801. Tel:
(914) 633-7400.

Sam Pierce, New Rochelle City Marshall,
475 North Avenue, New Rochelle, NY 10801.

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND
RENEWAL REMINDER
IT'S TIME TO RENEW**

NRBA membership is by calendar year; from January 1st through December 31st. The annual dues are still a bargain at \$100. This year we will be sending reminder notices through the mail. Please renew so you will not miss out on any benefit, including the free CLEs. As you may know, the NRBA transitioned to a new membership software system in 2017 which allows members to renew right on line. Members who renew, and prospective members seeking to join the NRBA, should do so through the website. All renewing members must update their own contact information, practice areas and other information directly online at <http://www.nrbar.org/> (by registering as a “new” member, once initially registered in the new system, annual renewals will be less cumbersome). If you did not sign in this year, please follow these instructions. When you load the NRBA website, enter the email address at which you currently receive the NRBA notices as your login-in ID and click on the “Forgot Password” button to begin the registration process. If you have technical difficulties renewing online, please contact Mark Griffin at: mark.griffin@gmail.com and we will assist you.

If paying by physical check, please make it out to “New Rochelle Bar Association” and mail it to The New Rochelle Bar Association, P.O. Box 1863, New Rochelle, NY 10802. Even if you pay by check, you should log in and update your contact information to ensure that this information is current. If you need help with this, please contact the NRBA and we will assist you.

REMEMBER: Dues must be paid before a member can attend a CLE. Membership dues and event ticket purchases may be paid on the NRBA's website (<http://www.nrbar.org>).

MEMBER NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

We congratulate NRBA Director **Damon Maher** on being elected on November, 2017 to the Westchester County Board of Legislators, representing District 10 (New Rochelle, Eastchester and Tuckahoe).

Congratulations to **Laurie and Paul Korngold** on the birth of their granddaughter Eleanor Dorothy Korngold via daughter-in-law Ana and son Evan Korngold.

Congratulations to NRBA Director **David Lacher** on the birth of his granddaughter.

We offer our condolences to NRBA Director **Richard Sosis** on the December 13th passing of his father-in-law and former business partner, **Walter Bobrow**, who was also a prior active member of the NRBA. Walter was 92.

**WITH MANY THANKS
By Paula Johnson Kelly, Esq.**

On May 17, 2017 my mother, Azzie Thompson, passed away after a four-year battle. She was 92 years old.

On behalf of myself and my family I want to thank my colleagues and friends for the outpouring of condolences and love we received by way of calls, text messages and emails; for the cards, flowers and the donations made in my mother's name; and for those who took the time from their own busy lives to come by my home, the wake and the funeral to offer their support in our time of great loss and sorrow. I cannot express how much this meant to me. We truly appreciate and shall never forget your thoughtfulness and kindness.

With many thanks, Paula

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

We welcome our newest and returning members:

Hon. Barry Salman

Susan Freedman, Esq.



NRBA UPCOMING EVENTS

SAVE THESE DATES:

The **Surrogate's Dinner** will be held on January 10, 2018 at Juliano's Caterers, New Rochelle, NY.

NRBA members and friends are invited to come and **bowl** on February 27, 2018 at New Roc City, New Rochelle, NY.

The annual NRBA **Court of Appeals Dinner** will be held on April 17, 2018 at the Fountainhead, New Rochelle, NY.



OUR WEBSITE: www.nrbar.org

With our website members can obtain information concerning our Bar, its activities, and general legal and community news. We welcome feedback.

This Newsletter can be downloaded from our website. Thanks for helping keep NRBA green.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

For an up-to-date listing of scheduled events, including CLEs and dinner meetings, kindly view existing event postings on our website: www.nrbar.org.

For reservations for any of our upcoming dinners or events please contact Treasurer **Andrew Buder, Esq.**, New Rochelle Bar Association, P.O. Box 1863, New Rochelle, NY 10802.

Getting Published

We welcome your submissions! All submissions should be sent to Mark Griffin, Editor, at mark.griffin@gmail.com. Please mark the subject as NRBA news. Articles between 500 to 1200 words should be sent in Word format. Photographs should be sent as jpeg attachments. Authors should include a short biographical statement with their articles, which must be spell checked, cite checked and in blue book form. Opinions expressed in any article printed in the NRBA newsletter are solely those of the author(s) and are not positions taken by the NRBA. Materials submitted allow NRBA limited copyright and full permission to reprint the article in the NRBA newsletter without additional consent.

From All of Us to All of You:

