



December 2015

www.nrbar.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Colleagues and Friends;

As 2015 comes to an end, I look back over the year to all our Bar's accomplishments and the contributions made by and to our members and our community. This year we held nine informative and diverse Continuing Legal Education classes with topics ranging from art law to criminal law to elder law to ethics to securities to Reading a Title Report. Presenters included HSBC, John Allen, Esq., John Dalli, Esq., Raymond Dowd, Esq., Hon. Colleen Duffy, Richard Feiner, Esq. Hon. Barbara Jaffe and Kaylin Whittingham, Esq. As always, these free to paid members CLEs provided free suppers; truly a yummy benefit and a savings for our members. The Bar welcomes your suggestions on both topics and speakers that may be of interest to you for upcoming fall 2016 CLE programs. Please contact Hon. Jeffrey Levin, the CLE Chair, with your suggestions. Of course, we would not be able to hold these CLEs at no-cost to members if it weren't for the generous support from our sponsors, including Monroe College, TD Bank, HSBC, TitleVest, and 1st Nationwide Title Agency, LLC.

The Bar also continued our award-winning program of teaching children in our public schools. Our

"Lawyer in the Classroom" program finished its fourth year of introducing fourth and fifth grade students to elementary concepts of law, specifically learning about the Fourth Amendment to the Constitution. Here's to our members who volunteered their time in April and May to teach these classes, and a special thanks to Ron Zezima for a job well done managing this necessary program! Thanks Ron for your dedication and hard work! Continuing our tradition of honoring and assisting our children, during the June picnic NRBA handed out scholarships to talented graduates chosen by New Rochelle High School, Monroe College, Iona College, The College of New Rochelle and Pace Law School. In aiding our community our members continue to volunteer as arbitrators in the New Rochelle Small Claims Court. Thank you one and all.

Since our September edition of the Newsletter we have held another marvelous and joyous event, our Holiday Gala at the Fountainhead. More will be said about this in the pages that follow.

Now, as we look forward to 2016, we anticipate more exciting, informative and interesting programs and events. NRBA will start 2016 on January 12, 2016 at Juliano's with our Annual Surrogates' Dinner, with Special Guest Hon. Brandon Sall, the new Westchester County Surrogate. Bronx Surrogate, Hon. Nelida Malave-Gonzalez, enjoyed herself so much last year that she will be joining us again as our guest. If you have not yet reserved your space there is still time to send in your reservation. This program is open to members of all local bar associations so space is limited. The Court of Appeals Dinner is already scheduled for April 21, 2016. Our keynote speaker will be Hon. Sheila Abdus-Salaam. Mark your calendars for this don't miss special event. Additional information will follow by email. The Board has already scheduled our monthly CLEs for the 2016 winter session.

Please look for the email flyers for specific information.

REMINDER: NRBA dues are calendar year based. Therefore, 2016 dues are due in January. Applications for renewal for 2016 can be found on our website: www.nrbar.org. I expect 2016 will be a good year for our Bar and our membership. Of course, we will need your help and participation to make that become a reality. Thank you for your continued support.

Here's to you and yours! Happy New Year!

Yours,

Paula

Paula Johnson Kelly



NRBA LAWYER IN THE CLASSROOM UPDATE

By Ronald V. Zezima, Esq.



Once again, the New Rochelle Bar Association is proud to announce that we will be conducting our most popular Pro Bono program in 2016 throughout the New Rochelle School District's elementary schools. We thank all of the wonderful volunteer lawyers who gave freely of their time last year, and we invite participation from any member of the Bar as well as past participants.

The Lawyer in the Classroom Program consists of a formal curriculum designed by Corey Andrews, a teacher at Ward School. As he has in the past, Mr. Andrews will conduct a 2 hour CLE seminar for our lawyer volunteers in late April, and the sessions in all six New Rochelle elementary schools will commence during a four week period commencing in early May. Each year, our volunteers teach a total of nearly 800 fifth graders the basics of the United States Constitution and the Bill of Rights during the first two sessions; the third and fourth sessions focused on a U.S. Supreme Court case, *TLO vs. State of New Jersey*, involving students' Fourth Amendment rights. The program, which has enthusiastically received by the school

administrators and teachers for the last five years, received the New York State Bar Association “Innovation Award” in 2014. The students are completely engaged in the weekly discussions and were given homework assignments designed by Mr. Andrews to sharpen their written and oral argument skills.

Participation in this program is available to all member attorneys, and qualifies as Pro Bono work for purposes of 22 NYCRR Part 118, which mandates biennial reporting of pro bono hours for all attorneys. The more volunteers we have, the smaller the classes we are able to conduct. Sessions are generally scheduled mid-afternoon, once a week for four weeks. We hope that all of our past volunteers will join us once again, and that those of you who haven’t had the opportunity in the past will join us this year. To participate, please e-mail Ron Zezima at rvzesq@aol.com. Feel free to call Ron with any questions at (914)633-5600.



ELDER LAW AND GUARDIANSHIP COMMITTEE

The Elder Law and Guardianship Committee of the New Rochelle Bar Association is calling all members who are interested in being involved in the Committee in 2016 to contact Patty Bave (914-633-7400) or Ed Loughman (914-636-5051) for more information. We are seeking active members to attend a study group and other committee events focused on sharing ideas and a flow of information helpful and supportive to elder law practitioners.

MEMBERSHIP DUES & PAYMENT METHODS UPDATE

Annual NRBA Membership dues are due on January 1, 2016. Dues must be paid before a member can attend a CLE. Membership dues and event ticket purchases may now be done on the NRBA's website (<http://www.nrbar.org>) via PayPal.



NRBA UPCOMING EVENTS

Our annual Surrogate’s Court Dinner is scheduled for January 12, 2016 at Juliano’s Caterers, located at 700 Main Street, New Rochelle. Our Guest speaker will be Brandon Sall, Westchester County Surrogate, with guest, Bronx Surrogate, Hon. Nelida Malave-Gonzalez, attending. The annual Court of Appeals dinner is tentatively scheduled for April 21, 2016 at the Radisson Hotel, located at 1 Radisson Avenue, New Rochelle. The keynote speaker will be Hon. Sheila Abdus-Salaam, Associate Justice of the Court of Appeals. The annual Meeting and Picnic is scheduled for June 9, 2016 at Five Islands Park. Details for all of these events will be sent via email and posted on the website.



CLE NEWS**By Hon. Jeffrey Levin**

The NRBA 2015/2016 CLE programs started on September 24, 2015 in the Ossie Davis Theater at the New Rochelle Public Library with a presentation generously sponsored by TitleVest, a Westchester and New York title agency with an office located at 235 Mamaroneck Avenue, White Plains. Christine Gagliardi, the Managing Director for Business Development servicing the NRBA, can be contacted at Christine.gagliardi@titlevest.com.

Glenn Chernick, the Vice President and Senior Underwriting Counsel at TitleVest, presented a program on "Reading a Title Report". Glen's responsibilities at TitleVest include responding to clients' legal, real estate and title-related issues. The second part of the program was a step by step demonstration of the "Electronic Preparation of Title Conveyance Documents" by Deputy County Clerk John Allen and Margaret Crawford from the Westchester County Clerk's Office. Forty-two NRBA members attended the CLE.

On October 13, 2015 a 2 ethics CLE credits program for was presented by Kaylin L. Whittingham entitled, "Lawyering in the Technology Age – Ethical Pitfalls To Avoid". TD Bank sponsored the CLE at their branch located in Larchmont. The CLE was attended by 59 NRBA members.

The November 17, 2015 program entitled "SEC Law 101" was presented by Richard Feiner, Esq. before 48 NRBA members. Richard Feiner, with the law firm Silverman, Shin, Byrne & Gilchrest, is a NRBA member. His area of practice and expertise includes securities law, securities transactions, mergers and acquisitions. The CLE was generously sponsored by Brett Forman of First Nationwide Title Agency, LLC at the Larchmont

Temple. Board Member Hon. Andrew M. Spatz introduced the sponsors and Mr. Feiner.

On January 19, 2016 at the headquarters of Sterling National Bank on Scarsdale Road in Yonkers (near the Tuckahoe train station), Carl Finger, a partner at Finger & Finger in White Plains, will present a program on "Landlord Tenant Law 101". This CLE will be an update and refresher course on current issues regarding landlord tenant law and practices.

The remainder of this upcoming CLE calendar includes Joseph Sena returning on February 23, 2016 to speak about recent changes to immigration law, rules and regulations. Mr. Sena will entertain and inform us regarding the controversial issues being discussed by the presidential candidates regarding proposed changes to immigration law. On March 15, 2016 Joseph Ruhl of Orange Bank & Trust in White Plains will present a 2 credit ethics CLE. NRBA Treasurer Patricia A. Bave of Kommer Bave & Ollman LLP in New Rochelle will lead a discussion regarding developments and practices regarding Elder Law and Estates and Trusts on April 19, 2016. The Hon. Janet Malone will discuss Family Law and Court Procedures on May 17, 2016 and Mayo Bartlett, a criminal justice attorney with offices in White Plains, will discuss criminal law, procedures and practices on June 14, 2016. Additional information concerning speakers, sponsors and locations of the programs will be announced by email as we get closer to each CLE event. Stay tuned.



Speaker Kaylin L. Whittingham presenting "Lawyering in the Technology Age – Ethical Pitfalls To Avoid" on October 13, 2015 at TD Bank in Larchmont.



Board Director Andrew Spatz with sponsors Brett Forman and Erika DelDuca of First Nationwide Title Agency, LLC on November 17, 2015 at the Larchmont Temple.



Richard Feiner presenting "SEC Law 101" on November 17, 2015 at the Larchmont Temple.



Richard Feiner presenter of "SEC Law 101"

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING CLEs:

The NRBA will be offering the following CLE programs:

1. *Landlord-tenant Law*, January 19, 2016, by Carl Finger, Esq., at the New Rochelle Public Library, 1 Library Plaza, New Rochelle;
2. *Immigration Law*, February 23, 2016 by Joseph Sena, Esq., location to be determined.
3. *Attorney Banking Ethics*, March 15, 2016 by Joseph Ruhl, Esq., location to be determined.
4. *Elder Care Law*, April 19, 2016 by Patricia Bave, Esq., location to be determined.
5. *Family Law*, May 17, 2016 by Honorable Janet Malone, location to be determined.
6. *Criminal Law*, June 14, 2016 by Mayo Bartlett, Esq., location to be determined.

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



NRBA ANNUAL HOLIDAY GALA

The New Rochelle Bar Association held its annual Holiday Gala on December 10, 2015 at The Fountainhead in New Rochelle. Ralph J. Berardi, Jr. of Pepe/Gerard Capital, LLC and Residential Home Funding Corp. generously co-sponsored the event. The venue was beautiful, the food delicious, and the company merry. Special judicial guests included the Hon. Daniel Angiolillo, Hon. Anthony Carbone, Hon. John Colangelo, Hon. Kathie Davidson, Hon. Colleen Duffy, Hon. Hal Greenwald, Hon. Linda Jameson, Hon. Susan Kettner, Hon. Joan Lefkowitz, Hon. Mary Anne Scattertico-Naber, Hon. Terri Ruderman, Hon. Sam Walker, Hon. Barbara Zambelli, Hon. David Zuckerman, and Charles Wood and our own New Rochelle Councilmember Barry Fertel.



Board Director Michele Tombini, with event sponsor Ralph J. Berardi, Jr. of Pepe/Gerard Capital, LLC and Residential Home Funding Corp.



Board Directors John Giacobbe and Lori Corini.



Ed Loughman, III, Councilmember Barry Fertel and Marianne Sussman.



Christina Selin, Carmelina DiMarco, Steven Kroleski, President Paula Johnson Kelly, and Jennifer Pasquantonio.



David Lacher, Board Director John Giacobbe, and Denise Ward

MEMBER NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**CONDOLENCES:**

We offer our condolences to NRBA member **Myra Saul** on the passing of her mother-in-law, Dorothy Pinn.

We offer our condolences to Board Vice-President, Honorable **Jeffrey Levin**, whose mother passed away on December 11, 2015.

We offer our condolences to the family of NRBA member **Joseph Abinanti**, who departed this life in December.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

Emerson Moore II, Esq.
Francis Malara, Esq.
Elizabeth Connolly, Esq.
Camoy Williams

**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 **Patricia Bave, Esq.**, 145 Huguenot St., Suite 402, New Rochelle, NY 10801, (914) 633-7400.

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.

