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COUNTERBALANCE

The National Association of Women Judges

Volume 25, Issue 1, Winter 2004

Message from the President



Hon. Carolyn Temin

time to be President of NAWJ. My year was launched at our Conference where I had an opportunity to speak with the First Lady face to face and hear her inspiring speech; Justice Ginsburg and

O'Connor welcomed us to a reception at the Supreme Court, and we heard from the Democratic Leader of the House Nancy Pelosi and Senator Mary Landrieu from Louisiana. All this, in addition to wonderfully informative educational sessions and a Gala Dinner attended by one thousand people. Kudos to Conference Chair, Past-President Noël Anketell Kramer and her committee and our remarkable staff, Connie Belfiore, Jeff Groton and Cristina Silva. And congratulations to our honorees: Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Honoree of the Year; Matt Cegelis of LexisNexis, Florence K. Murray Award French.

This is a truly exciting recipient; and Judge Marjorie Laird Carter, winner of the first Mattie Belle Davis Award.

Last month, I had the honor of sending incredible 25th Anniversary congratulatory messages to Dame Brenda Hale, the first woman to be appointed a Law Lord in Great Britain and to Judge Sharin Ebadi, winner of the 2003 Nobel Peace Prize. As if this were not enough, I received responses, by email, from both of these eminent women. We are truly on the international map.

> When the Peace Prize was announced, which happened during our D.C. Conference, the unanimous reaction of those present was to extend an invitation to Judge Ebadi to attend our next Annual Conference in Indianapolis. This has been done and the Chair, Judge Margaret Robb, is prepared to assist in every way possible should Judge Ebadi be able to attend. By the way, locating Judge Ebadi required several phone calls to Paris, which were greatly facilitated by our estimable Executive Director, who is fluent in (continued on page 2)

Outstanding 2003 Annual Conference Sets Stride for Next 25 Years of NAWI

Cristina D. Silva, Assistant to the Executive Director

Over 400 judges gathered at the historic Mayflower Hotel in Washington, D.C., October 8-12, 2003, to celebrate NAWJ's 25th Annual Conference. The conference was organized by Hon. Noël Anketell Kramer and her wonderful planning committee. Entitled Justice in America - Justice in the World, the conference agenda was filled with exceptional educational programs, guest speakers, and events.

The conference began on Wednesday evening with a welcome reception where old friends and new members mingled and enjoyed each others' company. On Thursday Hon. Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Hon. Bea morning, the program began with a special appearance by



Ann Smith at the 2003 Awards Banquet

(continued on page 2)

Democratic Leader of the House, Hon. Nancy Pelosi. Her appearance was followed by superb educational programs. From Gender and Economics: International and Domestic Perspectives to International Criminal Court - "Just" for the Rest of the World, but not for the United States?, each was outstanding. Attendees then enjoyed an inspiring evening at the National Building Museum in downtown D.C. The Gala Dinner, organized by Host Committee co-chairs Deborah Israel, Esq., and Nancy Long, Esq., and their committee, featured two keynote speakers,

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Volume 25, Issue 1

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Counterbalance is published 3 times a year

Message from the President...(continued from page 1)

We're starting off our new year with several new initiatives. I have formed an Education Committee as a sub-committee of the Program Committee. The new committee is chaired by Judge Diana Eagon of Minneapolis and is charged with having our NAWJ programs presented at judicial education conferences throughout the United States. Judge Sheila Murphy of Chicago is chairing the new Judicial Assistance Committee. This Committee will train its members to respond to our members who are in crisis and need someone to call who will provide confidential information and advice. Past-President Cindy Lederman is chairing a new committee called Infants and Toddlers in Court, which will focus on an often overlooked population, and Judge Brenda Murray's Women in Prison Committee will launch an investigation of and seek solutions for the problems of children of incarcerated parents.

Another new initiative is the concept I developed of appointing State have Representatives/Deputy District Directors. This position is open to any member who wishes to volunteer to assist the District Director in coordinating activities for a particular State. I hope that many of you will volunteer to serve NAWJ in this capacity. It is a way to begin to be active in a leadership position. A state can, of course, have more than one Representative. These positions will assist us in being responsive to the need, expressed in the answers to our survey, that we present NAWJ programs on a regional or state basis for those members who are unable to attend the annual conferences.

Judge Maureen Lally-Green of Pennsylvania and Professor Elizabeth Schneider of Brooklyn Law School are chairing our Judicial-Academic Network Committee, and will be prepared to act as resources for any of our members who wish to put on programs. Professor Schneider, using her far-flung network of contacts, will find you local experts on your chosen subject. Please avail yourselves of this marvelous opportunity to enhance your membership benefits and attract others to join.

As you can see, there is a lot going on and I hope that each and every one of you will choose to be an active participant in our activities this year. And, please remember, that I am always delighted to hear from you. A link to my email address is on our web page (or will be shortly) so I am just a click away. I am so honored to have this opportunity to serve you.

25th Annual Conference... (continued from page 1)



Laura Bush addressing conference attendees on Friday morning.

Senator Mary Landreiu (D-LA) and U.S. 2001 and Commonalities and Differences: Supreme Court Justice, Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Military Courts and Civilian Courts. Conference Justice Ginsburg, long a NAWJ member, received attendees also visited the United States NAWJ's Honoree of the Year award at the dinner. Holocaust Museum, where they heard an

to a special appearance and inspirational speech Frederick Meinecke, Jr., a Holocaust specialist. by First Lady Laura Bush. She spoke about justice During his presentation, titled When Justice in the world, human rights, and Afghani and Fails: Threats to Judicial Independence, he Iraqi women and children. The speech was addressed the role of the judiciary during broadcast live on CNN. Mrs. Bush also took the Holocaust.

time to speak with the conference attendees from both Iraq and Afghanistan. As a token of NAWI's appreciation for speaking to our members, Hon. Bea Ann Smith presented the First Lady, an avid book lover, a copy of NAWJ's history book, Keeping the Promise of Justice: Celebrating the 25th Annual Conference of the National Association of Women Judges.

Like Thursday, the educational programs on Friday were exceptional. The topics included Liberty vs. Security: Due Process Rights and Equal Protection After September 11,

On Friday morning, NAWJ was treated outstanding special presentation by Willam

(continued on page 4)

NAWI Honors Founding Mothers

Cristina D. Silva, Assistant to the Executive Director



Hon. Vaino Spencer and Hon. Joan Dempsey Klein, NAWJ Founding Mothers

The National Association of Women Judges honored its Founding Mothers, Hon. Vaino Spencer and Hon. Joan Dempsey Klein, during our 25th Anniversary Celebration in Washington, D.C. It was their courage and innovation that lead to the founding of NAWJ and we are truly grateful for their support and dedication to the organization.

They were both honored during the Awards Banquet in D.C. where Hon. Bea Ann Smith presented both with engraved crystal vases. Hon. Joan Dempsey Klein accept Hon. Vaino Spencer's award in absentia. Banquet attendees were also treated to a video highlighting Justice Klein's contributions to NAWJ. In addition to the vases, each Founding Mothers received enlarged copies of the photo on the left, that were signed with personal messages from conference attendees.

NAWJ salutes our Founding Mothers! Thank you for recognizing the need for an organization like NAWJ and for your support and inspiration. Your leadership continues to shape this organization and we are truly honored by your commitment.



Rhode Island Bar Association Honors NAWJ Founding Member Florence K. Murray

Cristina D. Silva, Assistant to the Executive Director

The Rhode Island Bar Association instituted a new award in honor of NAWJ founding member, Florence K. Murray, the award's first Hon. Florence K. Murray recipient. The award is presented to a person who, by example or otherwise, has influenced women to pursue legal careers, opened doors for woman

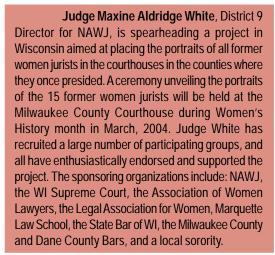
attorneys, or advanced opportunities for women within the legal profession.

Hon. Florence K. Murray pioneered the causes of women in the law throughout her distinguished 56 year career on the bench. She was the first woman attorney elected to the Rhode Island Senate, the first woman Justice on the Superior Court, the first woman Presiding Justice of the Superior Court, and the first woman on the Rhode Island Supreme Court. NAWJ honors Justice Murray each year when it presents the Florence K. Murray Award to an individual who exhibits exceptional dedication to the organization. The recipient of the 2003 NAWJ Florence K. Murray was Matt Cegelis of LexisNexis. NAWJ is very proud of Judge Murray.

Hon. Norma Shapiro's 25th Year on the Bench

Cristina D. Silva, Assistant to the Executive Director

Hon. Norma Shapiro celebrated her 25th year on the bench in 2003. As a Senior U.S. District Judge, her considerable impact on the judicial system and on individuals was evident at the unveiling of her portrait on October 24,





expected to and did attend the Hon. Norma Shapiro

unveiling that the court arranged for several large televisions to provide

2003. So many persons were

a simulcast for a second audience in the foyer. Judge Shapiro was the first woman partner at Dechert LLP and then the first woman to serve on the bench of the Eastern District. During her long and very successful career, she received numerous awards, such as the Pennsylvania Bar Association's Sandra Day O'Connor award, and most recently, the NAWJ Excellence in Service award. Both Supreme Court Justices Sandra Day O'Connor and Ruth Bader Ginsburg were in there for the unveiling of the portrait. NAWJ salutes Judge Shapiro on her silver anniversary!

WELCOME!

NEW MEMBERS July to December

Hon. Lillian M. Almeida Hon, Lorenzo Arredondo Ms. Susan Bayly Hon. Jan Breland Hon. Margaret Carey-McCray Hon. Betty Shelton Cole Hon. Diane Colvin Ms. Peggy Cook Hon. Terry Craven Hon. Miriam Cyrulnik Hon. Leslie Donahue Hon. Elisabeth Earle Lt. Col. Dawn Eflein Hon. Theresa Furnari Hon. Terrie Gent Hon. Melanie M. Shaw Geter Hon. Theresa A. Goldner Hon. Donna Fields Goldstein Hon. Nancy M. Gould Hon. Sue-Ellen Hantman Hon. Patricia Harwood Hon. Patricia E. Henry Hon. Karimu F. Hill-Harvey Hon. Patricia A. Hurst Hon. Katherine M. Irigoin Hon. Charlie Johnson-Wright Hon. Mary M. Johnston Hon. Bonnie L. Jones Hon. Irene M. Keeley Hon. Julia Craig Kelety Hon. Zakia Mahasa Hon. Janet Mahon Hon. Octavia Melendez Hon. Helen Meyer Ms. Pamala A.Micheaux Hon. Barbara B. Rollins Hon. Marisela Saldana Hon. Elizabeth Seiser Ms. Barbara A. Sherman Hon. Jeri Somers Hon. Stephanie Sontag Hon. Cynthia Dianne Steel Hon. Kathleen A. Sullivan Hon. Nancy S. Tabor Hon. Constance B. Tobias Hon. Jessie E. Walsh Hon. Mary Geitz Willis Stetson University Law Library Ave Maria School of Law Library Appellate Division Law Library **UCLA Law Library**

Past President's Message

Hon. Bea Ann Smith, Immediate Past President



Hon. Bea Ann Smith

I want to thank Noël Anketell Kramer and her hardworking host committee for a conference that surpassed all of our highest expectations. I can think of no more fitting way to celebrate our 25th Anniversary! The attendance topped all records, and the inclusion of thirty-one international women judges made very pertinent our focus on *Justice in America - Justice in the World*. It was thrilling to listen to First Lady Laura Bush, House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, and Senator Mary Landrieu. The educational programs were excellent and varied. I have two wonderful visual memories of the conference: the sparkling design of all those tables at the National Building Museum just waiting for 1,000 guests to take their seats for the

Gala Dinner, and the panoramic shot of the elegant Mayflower Ballroom as Mrs. Bush addressed our attentive members. It was a memorable conference in every way, and most of us got to carry some of those memories home with us in the beautiful new NAWJ History Book. We were honored to have Justices Sandra Day O'Connor and Ruth Bader Ginsburg host such a beautiful reception at the Supreme Court, and to have Justice Ginsburg spend three consecutive evenings with NAWJ—what a generous Honoree of the Year! This conference was a triumphant way to end my year as your president, and I thank all of the District 4 judges and volunteers who created this special moment for all of us.

25th Annual Conference... (continued from page 2)

On Friday evening, NAWJ members and U.S. Supreme Court Justices Sandra Day O'Connor and Ruth Bader Ginsburg kindly hosted a reception at the Supreme Court. Both justices greeted the attendees and graced the reception with their presence.

After two very busy days, conference attendees met for a Saturday morning of more wonderful educational programs. Topics for the breakout sessions included: *Investing in the Future of Girls: Confronting the Needs of Girls in the Justice System; United States Drug Policy: Implications for Women and Their Children*; and *Violence in America: Causes, Questions, and Possible Cures.* The attendees then enjoyed a free afternoon to explore our nation's capital and rest for the Awards Banquet that evening. During the Awards Banquet, we were again honored by Justice Ruth Bader

Ginsburg, as she shared with us a special video about her life that friends and family had made in celebration of her birthday. She also answered questions from the floor. We deeply appreciate her devoting three nights in a row to NAWJ.

NAWJ presented three special awards

NAWJ presented three special awards during the banquet. Matt Cegelis, of LexisNexis, received the Florence K. Murray Award for his dedication to NAWJ and its mission. Hon. Marjorie Laird Carter received the new Mattie Belle Davis award, designated for an upcoming leader in the organization.

NAWJ's Founding Mothers Hon. Joan Dempsey Klein and Hon. Vaino Spencer (in absentia), received special recognition throughout the 25th Anniversary celebration. In particular, Awards Banquet attendees were treated to a short video highlighting their contributions to NAWJ, and both founders received commemorative crystal vases. Further, Justice Klein and her husband Conrad Lee Klein received accolades for their roles in supporting NAWJ over the years.

The conference was a true success. The in-depth educational sessions, superb guest speakers, and enthusiasm were tremendous, and

it will set the stride for the next 25 years of NAWJ. We hope that each of you will attend the 26th Annual Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana!



COUNTERBALANCE

Executive Director's Report

Constance L. Belfiore, Executive Director



On Our Way to Becoming a Well-Known Judicial Think Tank!

"Three years ago, who would have guessed that NAWJ could sell 24 dinner tables for \$5,000 and \$10,000 each? Approach selected lawyers with shiny folders showcasing the organization and ask them to join the Resource Board? Attract national press attention to our judicial education programs? Offer interactive internet learning? Even maintain regular and interesting communication with all of our members?" With these words, Michael Goodman, Chair of NAWJ's Resource Board, mused on the "quantum leap"

NAWJ has made in recent years. He continued, "From a mom and pop-type operation to a professional organization, the visual improvements have been fantastic! You should write about that."

And so I am. NAWJ indeed has become more visible to the outside world – a corollary to its internal growth. Of primary effect is our website, which has been upgraded to the point that it reflects the vitality, diversity and cutting-edge purpose of the organization. Not only can one learn about NAWJ's mission and history on the website, one can:

- · read the past three issues of Counterbalance;
- apply for membership, register for conferences, obtain curricula, and purchase publications, pins and our History Book online;
- · delve into our judicial education and outreach programs;
- engage in interactive distance learning opportunities for which judges and lawyers can receive continuing education credit;
- · learn about the details of our Annual Conferences;
- · view a calendar of important NAWJ and related activities;
- · link to the websites of similar organizations;
- · participate in our Vacation Homes Program; and
- · locate the list of Board Members, committees and national office staff.

In the near future, we hope to provide to our members password-protected access to:

- · our membership list with contact information;
- · professional topic-related chat rooms; and
- · specialized research and information.

Impressed? Well, we have received accolades for the improvements, and kudos go to Jeff Groton, our Director of Operations and Membership, for his vision and management of the site.

Next, it is clear that *Counterbalance* has received more than a facelift; it has been rejuvenated. It contains pictures, readable print, articles of substantive import as well as social interest, and graphics that invigorate the text. As a public relations tool, *Counterbalance* has proven to be very popular; it gives an overall and appealing view of our organization. Cristina Silva, Assistant to the Executive Director, is responsible not only for its contents, but also for its timely publication.

Also impressive is our new, innovative, and professional folder containing stunning information about NAWJ. The folder, together with our fascinating History Book, have been admired by potential Resource Board members, program co-sponsors and grant sources.

Moreover, our cutting-edge judicial education materials have become more detailed and versatile. Shorter modules of the comprehensive programs are being developed so that they may fit into established state and federal judicial conferences, and online learning now extends the reach of our materials to every judge in the country. Not only does this demonstrate to others the substance and depth of NAWJ's commitment to its mission, it entices national and local media to write about and broadcast our sessions.

Finally, it is clear to Michael and to others that the professionalism of full-time staff, "the ability of staff to go out into the world, meet with people and represent well a substantive and vital NAWJ" is one of the greatest "visual improvements".

Michael and I invite you to join us in making NAWJ increasingly visible to others. (Already I respond to some cold calls from the media and from other legal and community sources.) Together, NAWJ leadership, membership and staff are positioning the organization to become a well-known judicial think tank in the 21st century. That is our goal, and we shall attain it.

NEW FROM NAWJ...

Support NAWJ by donating stock!

We are pleased to offer you an easy and useful way to support NAWJ! Many donors choose to make their charitable contributions to non-profit entities in the form of gifts of appreciated securities, rather than cash. This option is now available to you! Choosing this option has some important advantages for you, especially if the security you choose to give has a low cost basis. For more information about this option, contact Jeff Groton, **Director of Operations** and Membership, at (202) 393-0222. Additional information will also be listed in the next issue of Monthly Update.





NAWJ Members Bring Judges From Around the World to D.C. for 25th Annual Conference

Judge Leslie M. Alden

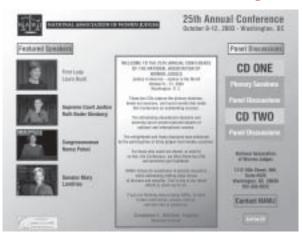
With their customary generosity and joie de vivre, NAWJ members assisted 24 women judges from around the world to attend the 25th Annual Conference held in Washington, D.C. in October. With District 14 leading the pack, and District 4 running a close second, NAWJ members from across the country raised more than \$22,000 in contributions toward registration, travel, hotel or other expenses incurred by women judges who came from as far away as Afghanistan, and as near as Guatemala. All of our international guests thoroughly enjoyed the visit to Washington, and were overwhelmed by the conference and the related activities. "Sharing a dinner with our U.S. friends and meeting their families is the highlight of the trip here!" proclaimed Judge Mary Ang'Awa, from the High Court of Kenya.

Some of the judges, such as Judge Radmilla Dicic from Serbia, and Judge Tandazwa Ndita from South Africa, participated as presenters during the educational programs, and spoke to NAWJ members about rebuilding a judiciary after war or strife. Others, such as Judge Marzia Bazul from Afghanistan and Judge Suad Mohammad from Iran, shared information about their lives in recovering war-torn areas, and also served as inspirations for the moving comments made by First Lady Laura Bush when she spoke to the conference about the importance of the work of women and human rights in rebuilding the legal systems in those countries. Judges Engera Kileo from Tanzania, Ana Lima from Uruguay and Yolanda Perez from Guatemala also spoke to NAWJ members about the Jurisprudence of Equality Program and the importance of training judges about international human rights. Also joining the Conference for one day were 13 women judges from Russia, who attended the educational sessions involving international law.

NAWJ also was fortunate to have been joined by several of our friends from the courts of Canada, as well as judges from Italy, Poland and the Republic of China, and of course by the aweinspiring Judge Carmen Argibay from International Criminal Tribunal of the former Yugoslavia.

Special thanks go out to: Judge Judy Chirlin and her friend and Resource Board member Robert Kaufmann, who helped bring the judges from Eastern Europe: Joan Winship, Executive Director of the IAWJ, who arranged the visa from Afghanistan: and Judge Joan Churchill, who hosted a barbeque for the travelers who remained in town on Sunday evening.

NAWJ 25th Annual Conference CD is now available!



NAWJ is happy to announce the arrival of the 2003 Annual Conference CD. The two-CD set covers the speakers, education sessions and more. Just insert a CD into your disk drive on your computer, and click on the person or session you want to view. No more fast-forwarding or spending your time searching the VHS tape for the subject of interest. This CD set is truly a wonderful recording of the conference.

Order your set today for just \$19.95 via one of the following options:

- 1) Send a check or credit card information (number and expiration date) to NAWJ, 1112 16th Street, NW, Suite 520, Washington, DC 20036.
- 2) Email Jeff at <u>jgroton@nawj.org</u> with credit card information (number and expiration date).
- 3) Call Jeff at (202) 393-0222 with your credit card information.

Enjoy this CD <u>and share it with colleagues!</u> Remember, NAWJ is launching a Member-Get-A-Member campaign, and this CD showcases NAWJ beautifully!

Supplies are limited so order today!

D.C. Conference Educational Programs - Carefully Planned and Well Received

Hon. Kathleen O'Ferrall Friedman (Ret.)



Judge Noël Anketell Kramer, Chair of the 25th Anniversary Conference in Washington, DC, set the tone for the conference and programs with the theme: "Justice in America – Justice in the World." In the aftermath of September 11, 2002, Judge Kramer viewed the conference as an opportunity to examine the many challenges judges face in a democratic society and the potential for international law informing domestic law, while deepening our understanding of jurisprudence worldwide.

After a number of "brainstorming" meetings, the Planning Hon. Katy Friedman Committee developed eleven topics addressing both domestic and international issues and concerns, and approved a lecture and tour of the Holocaust Memorial Museum. At the same time, the Committee obtained commitments from the program coordinators, who took responsibility for identifying the presenters, setting the program agendas, and developing the program formats. Because experts on adult education find that adults learn best by participation, we asked coordinators to design programs to promote active participation.

During the final days of preparation, Judge Lynn Leibovitz, a member of the Educational Programs Committee, completed the 2003 Annual Conference Journal and added punch to the program descriptions. The large turn-out for the programs proved that the descriptions enticed conferees to attend; the quality of the programs kept them there. Judges Karen Johnson, M. Brooke Murdock, and Angela Edwards Roberts assisted coordinators during the sessions to ensure that the programs ran smoothly. These facilitators handed out materials, collected evaluations, and made sure that the doors didn't slam during the presentations. The energy felt in the sessions and the "buzz" in the corridor after each program told of the success of the educational programs.

The results of the evaluations confirmed that the programs were received enthusiastically. Conferees were asked to rate the programs on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being the lowest and 5 being the highest. Four questions were asked:

- Did the content covered meet the stated objectives?
- How effective was the overall format of the presentation?
- How effective were the styles/methods of the presentations? (Conferees were asked to rate each presenter.)
- Additional Comments?

All the programs received at least an average rating of 4 for meeting the stated objectives. International Child Abduction: Handling Hague Convention Cases in the United States, Liberty vs. Security: Due Process Rights and Equal Protection After September 11, 2001, and United State Drug Policy: Implications for Women and Their Children were rated 4.6 or over.

Most of the programs received an average rating of 4 or over for effectiveness of format. Investing in the Future: Girls in the Justice System received the highest rating – 4.6, while four other programs — International Child Abduction, Self-Monitoring Your Own Bias in the Courtroom, Liberty v. Security, and The United States Patriot Act: Implications for a Shift in the Separation of Powers — rated 4.45 or over.

The presenters, likewise, were well received. Most presenters rated 4 or over. No one received less than a rating of 3. Participants commented that the presenters were excellent and the discussions were stimulating. Due to the controversial nature of some programs, a few participants commented on the discussions becoming "political and partisan" and the need for even-handed presentations.

Comments on format provide guidance for future presentations. Participants found the interchange between Professor Judith Resnick and the panel during the plenary session on *Human Rights through an International Lens* very effective. If leaving participants wanting more is a measure of success, by this standard the programs succeeded. Many participants would have liked more time for discussion of the topics that had short time slots such as *The United States Patriot Act, Liberty and Security*, and *Violence in America*. Other comments included:

(continued on page 14)

Awards and Recognition



Hon. Judith McConnell

Justice of the Court of post, Justice McConnell

retirement from the court. She has served on and instructor for lawyers and judges. the state Supreme Court since 1986. Justice Committee on Standards of Judicial selection for this award. Administration, and is a fellow of the

Moines prior to her appointment. Judge procedures.

September Schemmel has been active in the state and local 29, 2003, Presiding bar associations, and served as president of the Chief Justice Judith Iowa Trial Lawyers Association in 2000-2001. $M\ c\ C\ o\ n\ n\ e\ 1\ 1$ She will serve in the fifth judicial district, which w a s a p p o i n t e d encompasses 16 central and south-central Iowa Administrative Presiding counties, and will be based in Des Moines.

Hon. M. Sue Kurita, El Paso County Appeal for the Fourth Court, and NAWJ District 11 Director, was Appellate District of recently elected to the Board of Directors of the California. In her new Judicial Section of the State Bar of Texas.

Hon. Linda Reade was sworn in as will be responsible for financial, employment, United States District Court Judge for the and other administrative issues in the Court Northern District of Iowa in January. Judge of Appeal, one of California's six intermediate Reade served for nine years on the state trial courts of review. Justice McConnell was court bench before her appointment. Prior to recently confirmed as the new Presiding that she served as Assistant U.S. Attorney for Justice of the Fourth Appellate District's the Southern District of Iowa, and worked in Division One (San Diego). That district private practice in Des Moines. Judge Reade, has two other divisions in Riverside and Santa 54, is a native of South Dakota. She graduated from the Drake University Law School in Des Iowa Supreme Court Justice Linda Moines in 1980, has been active in bar K. Newman, 55, recently announced her association activities, and is a frequent lecturer

The American Judicature Society (AJS) Newman, a former NAWJ Director, will teach honored the Wisconsin judiciary with two an ethics course at the University of Iowa law awards. The Special Merit Citation was given school, and is considering returning to private to the Wisconsin Supreme Court for its traveling practice and working as a mediator. Justice exhibit detailing the history of the Court's most Newman earned her bachelor's degree from famous cases. This citation is given for excellence the University of Colorado in 1970, and her in the advancement of public understanding of law degree from that school in 1973. She the judicial system. The Harley Award was given was in private practice in Davenport, Iowa, to Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Ann Walsh and later served as Scott County Magistrate. Bradley. Named for the founder of AJS, the She was appointed to the District Court in Harley Award is the Society's premier state 1982, where she served until her award, and is reserved for individuals who make appointment to the state Supreme Court. outstanding efforts and contributions that Justice Newman chaired the Appellate Judges substantially improve the administration of Conference of the American Bar Association's justice in their state. Justice Bradley's work on Judicial Division, served as a member of the history-related projects contributed to her

Judge Gayle Nelson Vogel of the Iowa American Bar Foundation. Justice Newman Court of Appeals recently received the Child was honored in June by her colleagues in the Advocate of the Year Award from Friends of Iowa Iowa Judges Association and by the Iowa State CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates). Bar Association for her many years of The award recognizes Iowans who demonstrate dedicated service to the judiciary. Justice outstanding efforts to make a positive difference Newman remarked on her pride in the in the lives of Iowa children. Judge Vogel was growing numbers of women in the state recognized for her leadership efforts in reducing judiciary since she was appointed to the time for appellate review of orders bench. Justice Newman is married to attorney terminating parental rights from 13 months to Henry Newman. They have two daughters. just four months. This allows children to be Hon. Carla Schemmel of Grimes, adopted more quickly, providing stability in Iowa, was appointed to the state district court their lives. Judge Vogel was appointed chair of bench in February. Judge Schemmel received the Iowa Court Improvement Project, and has her law degree from Drake University in worked with court officials from around the 1985, and was in private practice in Des country to develop similar streamlined appeal

Memoirs From Baghdad, Iraq

Hon. Judith Chirlin



Hon. Judith Chirlin

What possessed me to say "yes" when asked if I would go to Iraq in August, I do not know. Perhaps it was the effects of four solid months in an insurance coverage trial; perhaps I had just finished dealing with an inane discovery dispute over some virtually pointless questions when I received the call. Whatever it was, I agreed to go.

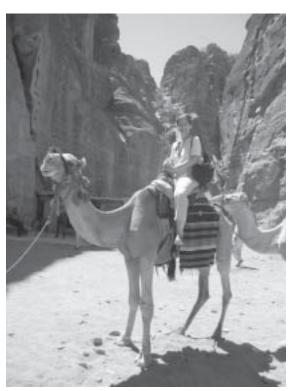
The entire trip was surreal. We met many intelligent, sophisticated Iraqis who are working against incredible odds to create a functioning justice system and who are thirsty for help from the international community to catch up with contemporary legal thought after 30 years of total isolation from the rest of the world. They are anxious for support in recreating a respected independent judiciary.

We arrived in Baghdad on August 13th, on a UN flight from Amman, Jordan. After meeting up with our contact at the UN Headquarters, the Canal Hotel, and checking in at the hotel where we would stay, the Mount Lebanon, we began a series of meetings with a panoply of people working on justice system issues. They included officials of the Coalition Provisional Authority (the "CPA"), the UN and other NGO representatives and Iraqi judges, lawyers and judicial educators. We also monitored the first free election of the officers of the Iraqi Bar Association in 30 years.

The conditions under which they are struggling are unbelievable. The daytime temperature was in excess of 104 degrees F. In most parts of the city there was little or no

electricity or water (ergo, no air conditioning). Crime was rampant. The court buildings and the Judicial Training Institute had been looted. Piles of rubble from bombed-out buildings were everywhere. Army tanks and APCs (armored personnel carriers) roamed the streets. Soldiers in full battle gear guarded all CPA locations, court facilities, banks and other places considered potential targets.

Traffic was a nightmare. No electricity means, no working traffic signals, and in the few areas where they work, drivers generally ignore them. One of the security alerts posted at the Canal Hotel warned that we were at greater danger to life and limb from traffic accidents than from hostile fire. The alert also informed us that although the "general curfew" was 11:00 p.m., the UN required its people to be in by 8:00 p.m. and warned that it was "safer" to be in by 6:00 p.m. And each night, when we went up on the roof to make calls with our satellite phone, we heard machine gun and handgun fire.



Judge Chirlin sitting tall.

By our last day in Baghdad, after meetings, consultations and discussions, our recommendations were taking shape and we had one last meeting to attend: that with Judge Dara Nurredin, a high ranking judge and a member of the Governing Council. That meeting, scheduled for 5 p.m. on August 19th, was arranged at the last minute, causing us to cancel a meeting previously scheduled for 4:30 p.m. at the Canal Hotel. It was only because of the meeting with Judge Dara and our resulting cancellation of the 4:30 meeting that we were not in the Canal Hotel when the bomb went off (at approximately 4:45 p.m.), killing 23 people including Sergio Vieira de Mello, the Special Representative of the Secretary General and the highest ranking UN official in Iraq, with whom we had met literally 48 hours before in the office under which the bomb exploded. (continued on page 12)

NAWJ Joins the International Legal Assistance Consortium (ILAC)

Judge Judith Chirlin was the ABA Representative to a delegation formed by the International Legal Assistance Constortium "ILAC", to assess the status of the legal system in Iraq and identify projects to help rebuild its justice system. ILAC"s mission "...is to facilitate and assist domestic and international efforts to improve the efficacy and credibility of legal institutions and the ability to implement accountability mechanisms, focusing on situations of conflict or transition by providing objective assessments and recommendations; by serving as a source of information about organizations, experts, document, and analyses; and by undertaking other activities related to this mission." The consortium is made up of non-governmental organizations (NGO's), mostly national and international bar associations, which offer help in rebuilding justice systems shattered by political upheaval or war. Following an invitation by Judge Chirlin, NAWJ is proud to join ILAC.

Memoirs From Bagdad...(continued from page 11)



Judge Chirlin with Iraqi Delegration

We had been scheduled to leave the next day on the one UN flight that flew out each day. We had no idea whether that flight would go, no idea whether we would be on it if it did, and no idea how long it would take for the UN to make and implement evacuation plans. So we decided to drive out, and Kadhim went to the Baghdad taxi garage and hired a taxi driver with a Chevy Suburban to drive us to Amman, Jordan. After a 15-hour drive, including a stop for gas in Ramadi (one of the towns in the Suni Triangle which is considered the epicenter for insurgent attacks against the Americans and more

recently, anyone who seems to be cooperating with the Americans), we arrived safely (and gleefully) at the Amman Marriott.

There we wrote our report, which includes comprehensive recommendations for, among

other things, training of judges in judicial independence and human rights law, training for judicial educators in modern adult education concepts and techniques, assistance to the courts in managing criminal cases, helping to set up a mechanism for appointment of counsel for criminal detainees, and assisting in tightening the qualifications for admission to the bar and establishing a code of ethics and a mechanism for its enforcement within the structure of the bar association.



Judge Chirlin with Iraqi Family

Now, from the safety of my chambers here in Los Angeles, I am pleased to say the trip was a success. Our report was presented to the International Donor's Conference in Madrid in late October. Our report contained the only substantive recommendations in our substantive area, and, reportedly, numerous countries were "competing" to fund them. And as I write, ABA CEELI is preparing to host classes of Iraqi judges at its Institute in Prague, another educational program is being developed for Iraqi judges in Jordan, and several others of the recommendations are being implemented by other groups.

And, although our particular delegation did not focus on women's issues (only one percent of the lawyers in Iraq are women, and there are only seven women judges in the country), as a result of my experience in Iraq, I was asked to participate in a conference for women judges and lawyers from around the Middle East this February. The conference will be in Jordan. One visit to a war zone is enough for even me.

NAWJ Remembers Member and Friend Hon. Lynne Brady

Hon. Eliza Ovrom

Hon. Lynne Brady of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, recently passed away after a long battle with brain cancer. Judge Brady served as district court judge in Iowa's Sixth Judicial District. Judge Brady was the longest-serving trial court judge in Iowa. She was appointed magistrate in 1973, and later served as district associate judge and district court judge. As one of the pioneering women judges in the state, Judge Brady had many "firsts" to her credit, including the first woman to serve as president of the Iowa Judges Association, and first woman to receive the Award of Merit from the Iowa Judges Association. At a special tribute by the local bar association, Judge

Brady was described by a practicing attorney as follows: "She was great in the courtroom. She was always in control as a judge should be. She knew the law and the rules and expected both to be followed. If a lawyer or defendant stepped outside either, she reined them in. She had a really good memory. Defendants feared showing up in her courtroom more than once. She could spot a bluff by attorney or client from a long distance. She didn't hold a grudge though. She kept giving lawyers a chance to come in and do it right. She was really fair to everyone who appeared before her."

Hon. Mariza Basel and the Afghan Association of Women Judges

Hon. Mel Flanagan



Hon. Basel (third from left) with Hon. Nancy Pelosi harassment or even and other D.C.Conference Attendees

Hon. Mariza Basel, a Juvenile Judge in Afganistan who has organized an association of women judges in her country, attended our 25th conference and shared some of her experiences

at the NAWJ New "She was recently removed Board Meeting. Judge Basel operated a school for women and girls in Kabul, braving the punishment of the Taliban Ministry for the

from the bench for appearing in a picture with President Bush wearing her head scarf down on her shoulders."

Protection of Virtue and Prevention of Vice that outlawed such schools. Recently, she was removed from the bench for appearing in a picture with President George W. Bush wearing her head scarf

down on her shoulders. She is now devoting her efforts to assisting and supporting women judges in Afganistan and hopes that judges in NAWJ will be a continuing resource for their association. Hon. Basel and her story is inspiring to all who work for justice around the globe.

Iran's First Woman Judge Wins Nobel Peace Prize

Iranian lawyer and activist, Shirin Ebadi, won the Nobel Prize for promoting peaceful and democratic solutions in the struggle for human rights in Iran. Ebadi, who was jailed for three weeks in 2000, has been a forceful advocate for women, children and those on the margins of society. She served as Iran's first female judge in the waning years of the Western-backed monarchy, which was toppled by the Islamic Revolution of 1979, when she was forced to resign her judicial office. At a news conference, Ebadi said Iran's most pressing human rights crisis is the lack of free speech, and she urged the government to immediately release prisoners jailed for expressing their opinions. "There is no difference between Islam and human rights.... The prize means you can be a Muslim and at the same time have human rights." The timely announcement of Judge Ebadi's prize occured during NAWJ's 25th Anniversary Conference. (She has responded favorably to an invitation to attend NAWJ's 26th Annual Conference, and we hope to meet her there.)

Removing Obstacles to Justice for Immigrants Now ON-LINE!

The Removing Obstacles to Justice for Immigrants is now online! The curriculum provides a forum for judges to develop a fundamental understanding of immigration law, identify important issues affecting immigrants, and develop a well-reasoned approach to the issues surrounding immigrants in court. The fee for this 8-hour training is only \$24.95 for NAWJ members, and \$49.95 for non-members.

The complete one-day, 8 hour, training session is available right from NAWJ's website! To receive the training via the internet, visit www.nawj.org, click on *Distance Learning*, purchase the program, and you can train over the internet at your convenience. The program is a wonderful tool and offers a variety of features that makes the program both useful and convenient. The expert presenters can be viewed and heard as their lectures are transcribed and the accompanying PowerPoint slideshow is presented. In addition, links to primary sources are avail-

"The on-line program is an outstanding tool that is both useful and convenient."

able and the program allows the viewer to type notes during the presentation.

The on-line program outlines essential points for each subject area, which include: *Immi-gration 101; Consequences of Criminal Convictions and Sentencing on Immigration Status and Natu-ralization Eligibility of Non-Citizens; The Violence Against Women Act; and Language and Cultural Considerations.* PowerPoint presentations and handouts may be downloaded and saved for a later date, and a self-test is available to assess knowledge before and after the program. Additionally, there are selected statutes and background materials available for further in-depth review, and a certificate of completion is available after the program.

If you would like to learn more about accessing the program session using the internet, or if you would like a published copy of the program, please contact Cristina Silva at (202) 393-0222 or csilva@nawj.org.

Update on the Uganda Book Project

Two Pennsylvania judges, Hon. Maureen Lally-Green, Superior Court, and Hon. Cynthia A. Baldwin, Court of Common Pleas, have completed the Uganda Book Project for which they volunteered at IAWJ's Dublin, Ireland meeting. With the assistance of World Vision and the Allegheny County Bar Association, fifteen boxes of books on family law, consumer law, and evidence, are now on their way to Uganda. The judges enjoyed doing this project and knowing that the books will be appreciated and utilized. They look forward to seeing you at the IAWJ Conference in Uganda iin May.

D.C. Conference Educational Programs ... (continued from page 9)

- In the future, presenters should <u>stand up</u> when speaking so that everyone can see them. PowerPoint is viewed as an effective learning tool and should be used especially when discussing statutes and acts.
- Panels are disfavored, but interactive discussion among presenters is seen as more effective and engaging.

Participants further suggested that NAWJ explore some topics more fully. For instance, Self-Monitoring Your Own Bias in the Courtroom "bears further discussion" and "a fourth of the programs could have gone on for hours. We need to do this again and continue dialogue." Another participant, commenting on the United States Drug Policy program wrote, "Please repeat at next year's meeting, and more time for this session."

Unfortunately, participants did not complete evaluations for the Holocaust Memorial Museum lecture and tour. From comments overheard, many participants found it a moving experience and greatly appreciated the opportunity to visit the Museum.

The success of the programs is due to the commitment and hard work of the coordinators. Thanks, too, go to all the presenters who gave so generously of their time and talents.

National Judicial Education Program Highlights, 2002-2003

Lynn Hecht Schafran, Director

Justice Betty Ellerin, chair of NAWJ's National Task Force on Gender Bias in the Courts, lead our second and third annual task force workshops concurrent with NAWJ's 2002 and 2003 annual meetings. For NAWJ's 25th anniversary history book, I drafted a brief history of the national gender bias task force movement.

NJEP's video curriculum, *Understanding Sexual Violence: The Judge's Role in Stranger and Nonstranger Rape Cases*, is in use nationwide. We held a Multi-State/Tribal Team meeting to demonstrate how to use the video augmented with local experts. Judge Mel Flanagan is in the video and was on the faculty. California, Colorado, Connecticut and Washington have already presented well-received judicial education programs using the video.

Beyond Borders: The Domestic Application of International Law is a joint judicial education project among NAWJ, IAWJ and NJEP. NJEP Project Attorney Claudia Bayliff and I worked closely with project chair Judge Leslie Alden, NAWJ Executive Director Connie Belfiore, and IAWJ Executive Director Joan Winship to develop a concept paper, budget, and advisory committee, which includes Justices Breyer, Ginsburg and O'Connor.

The Judge's Journal published my article on gender bias in custody evaluations, "Evaluating the Evaluators: The Problem with Outside 'Neutrals". New York's Integrated Domestic Violence Court made it mandatory reading for new judges and court attorneys.

Color of Justice

Judge Susan Criss of Texas recently received a grant from the Texas Bar Foundation to produce a *Color of Justice* video for NAWJ! Be on the lookout for more information about the video as it develops!

Judge Maxine White, WI, District 9 Director, recently held a very successful *Color of Justice* program. There has been significant interest in the program across the state of Wisconsin, especially due to this year's 50th Anniversary of Brown v. Board of Education. Judge White hopes to have several other *Color of Justice* programs held throughout 2004.

Judge Brenda Stith Loftin and Judge Shelia Woods-Skipper are organizing a *Color of Justice* program that will take place in Philadelphia during NAWJ's Mid-Year Meeting of the Board of Directors.

If you are interested, please contact Cristina Silva at the National Office for more information.

From the Bar to the Bench

Judge Marcy Kahn of New York is currently developing a manual for NAWJ's *From the Bar to the Bench* program. Be on the lookout for the new publication soon!

Genome Justice

The two pilot programs for NAWJ's new judicial education project program, *Genome Justice*, are planned to occur in Seattle in July, and in Phoenix during the Spring of 2005. Keep an eye out for more information in upcoming issues of *Monthly Update*and in the Spring issue of *Counterbalance*!

Now Available from the National Office



The unique *Scales of Justice* pin is available from the National Office. Buy one today for only \$100.00!! \$50.00 of the purchase is tax-deductible. To order, contact Jeff Groton at (202) 393-0222 or jgroton@nawj.org.



NAWJ's history book, Keeping the Promise of Justice, is now available from the National Office. If you were unable to view this beautiful, full color publication at the Annual Conference in D.C., you won't want to miss it! Call the Na-

tional Office for an emailed sneak peak at this celebration of history! Don't forget to order yours today ~ for you, a friend, or your law school library! To order, contact Jeff Groton at (202) 393-0222 or jgroton@nawj.org.

We're Looking for a Few Good Women... Become an Active NAWJ Member Today!

Becoming an active NAWJ member does not have to be a full time job. There are many ways to become active and make a big difference within NAWJ as well as in your community. Consider working with your District Director or other NAWJ members to organize a membership lunch, brunch or dinner, or evening seminar on topics of current interest to judges. Invite non-members to share in the experience. Consider running a small Color of Justice program in your community and educate young people about careers in the law and the judiciary. The rewards of being an active member will enrich your life and make NAWJ an even stronger organization.

Read what other members are saying:

"As an organization of judges, the ethical and other concerns of judges are taken into account in NAWJ's structure and activities, freeing judge members to concentrate on substance." - Judge Vanessa Ruiz

"I love getting to know women who sit on state and federal benches at all levels. I take more interest in decisions that are handed down when I know the trial or appellate judges who have authored them." - Judge Bea Ann Smith

"I derive enormous personal satisfaction and energy from my association with NAWJ and the women who are committed to its mission." - Judge Nan Duffly

Becoming an active member is easy!

Check out the ways you can get involved on the next page!

Become a State Representative/Deputy District Director

Becoming a State Representative or Deputy District Director is a fun and fulfilling way to help NAWJ. A State Representative or Deputy District Director helps the District Director plan and organize social and membership events in her area. Specifically, the following states continue to need State Representatives/Deputy District Directors: Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, and West Virginia. As NAWJ continues to grow, this position becomes more and more important. If you are interested in one of these positions, contact your District Director, below, or Cristina Silva at (202) 393-0222 or csilva@nawj.org.

Hon. Amy Nechtem, District 1 nechtem_a@jud.state.ma.us

Hon. Laura Jacobson, District 2 ljacobso@courts.state.ny.us

Hon. Marilyn Clark, District 3 Marilyn.Clark@judiciary.state.nj.us

Hon. Patrice E. Lewis, District 4 patrice.lewis@courts.state.md.us

Hon. Debra K. Behnke, District 5 JudgeBeh@aol.com

Chancellor Carol McCoy, District 6 carolmccoy@jis.nashville.org

Hon Susan Moiseev, District 7 s_moiseev@cityofsouthfield.com

Magistrate Christina J. Miller, District 8 chrisvan@aiagrp.net

Hon. Maxine A. White, District 9 maxine.white@wicourts.gov

Hon. Miriam Rykken, District 10 mrykken@wcca.state.mn.us

Hon. M. Sue Kurita, District 11 mskurit@aol.com

Hon. Sarah Sharer Curley, District 12, Chief Judge sarah_curley@azb.uscourts.gov

Hon. Beverly W. Cutler, District 13 bcutler@courts.state.ak.us

Hon. Charlene Mitchell, District 14 cmitchell@sftc.org

Which is my District?

District 1 MA, ME, NH, PR, RI

District 2
CT, NY, VT

District 3 DE, NJ, PA, Virgin Islands

District 4 DC, MD, VA

District 5 FL, GA, NC, SC

District 6 AL, LA, MS, TN

District 7 MI, OH, WV

District 8 IL, IN, KY

District 9 *IA, MO, WI*

District 10 KS, MN, NE, ND, SD

District 11 AR, OK, TX

District 12 AZ, CO, MN, UT, WY

District 13 AK, HI, ID, MT, WA, OR

District 14 CA, NV

Join a NAWJ Committee!

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By Laws

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RESOLUTIONS

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International Outreach

HISTORY

GENDER FAIRNESS

JUDICIAL ACADEMIC NETWORK

NAWJ Committees are vital to our organization. As shown above, NAWJ Committees vary in topic and fit different interests. Join a committee today! To join, or for more information about committees, contact Cristina Silva at (202) 393-0222, or csilva@nawj.org.

NAWJ

Thanks the following organizations for their outstanding support of our 25th Anniversary Conference in Washington, D.C.

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NAWJ would like to thank the following individuals for their donations to subsidize the attendance of international judges at the 25th Annual Conference.

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Don't Miss NAWJ's 26th Annual Conference!!!



At the Crossroads

Indianapolis, Indiana October 7-10, 2004

The 26th Annual NAWJ Conference will be held in beautiful Indianapolis, Indiana. The luxurious Westin Hotel will serve as Conference headquarters. It is downtown, within a short walking distance of all downtown Indianapolis attractions (including museums, theatres, the zoo, Circle Center Mall, historical attractions, restaurants, White River State Park, and the downtown canal). An informative, entertaining, and timely program is planned.

For more information, or to register, visit:

www.nawjindy2004.org, or click on NAWJ's website, www.nawj.org.

IAWJ 2004 CONFERENCE IN UGANDA

Access to Justice
May 9-13, 2004
Entebbe/Kampala, Uganda

If you are planning to attend IAWJ's May 2004 Conference in Uganda, please contact Judge Temin (Carolyn.temin@courts.phila.gov) and let her know. For a special fare through British Airways (sample fares: \$1,060 plus tax from Newark, Boston, BWI and Philadelphia), call Brandon at (214) 951-0240. For more information, visit the IAWJ website at www.iawj.org.



COUNTERBALANCE

The National Association of Women Judges 1112 16th Street, NW, Suite 520 Washington, DC 20036

The submission deadline for the next issue of Counterbalance is April 4, 2004.

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