



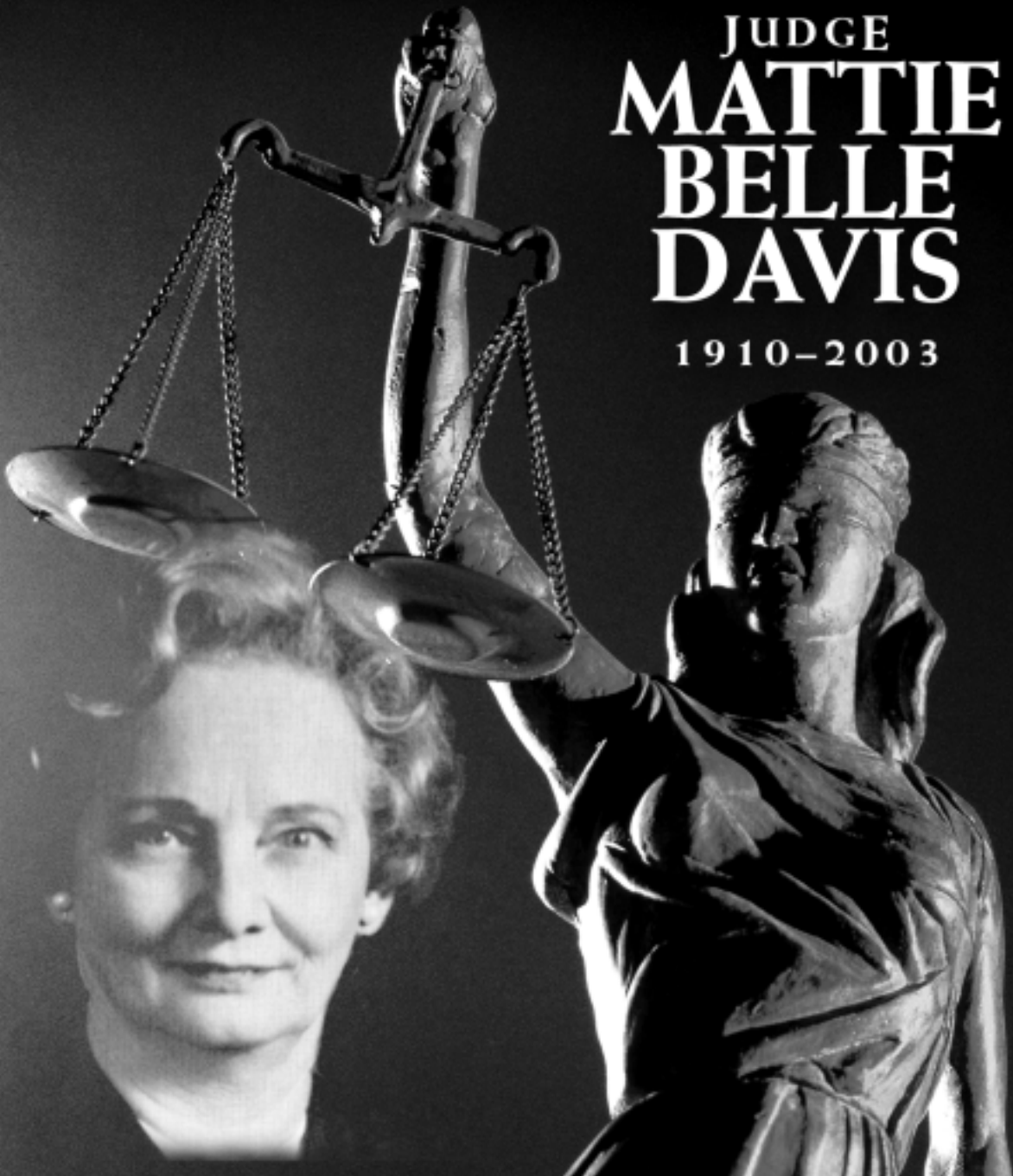
F.A.W.L. JOURNAL

A Publication of the Florida Association for Women Lawyers

AUTUMN 2003

JUDGE MATTIE BELLE DAVIS

1910-2003



FAWL TO HOST HON. MATTIE BELLE DAVIS MEMORIAL LUNCHEON.
SEE PAGE 16 FOR TICKET AND SPONSORSHIP INFORMATION.

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SOUND FAWL'S VOICE IN TALLAHASSEE:

FAWL's Legislative Committee is requesting a representative from each chapter to participate. The Committee will list and review legislative issues and make recommendations to FAWL regarding annual legislative priorities, and coordinate lobbying efforts with FAWL's pro bono lobbyist. Please forward the name, address, telephone number, and e-mail address of your selected chapter representative to Nola Richardson as listed above.

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Contact Pat Stephens at fawl@fawl.org or 850/894-0055.



President's Message

by Dinita L. James



Where Are the Pumps?

The summer of 2003 brought some significant milestones for me. The highlight came on June 27, when I was installed as President of the Florida Association for Women Lawyers. Close behind that big event came the July 2003 issue of the *ABA Journal*. There, on page 52, is my photo, and on the next page, a quote from me in the article "New Route for Class Actions." Some pretty nice exposure for the class action defense practice I have been working for years to develop.

It is the cover of that issue of the *ABA Journal*, however, that keeps coming back to mind. Promoting an article on survival tactics for mid-sized law firms was a cover illustration featuring fourteen pairs of large, brown, men's Oxford-style dress shoes surrounding a "mid-sized" pair just like all the others. There was not a single pair of pumps among them.

So, the American Bar Association, which espouses a strong commitment to diversity and which has a Commission on Women in the Profession that studies gender bias issues, nevertheless puts a blatantly sexist illustration on the cover of its featured magazine.

How does this happen? Who would not recognize the message of exclusion sent by an illustration depicting lawyers' shoes that are only those of men?

Those questions I cannot answer. However, in the September 2003 issue of the *ABA Journal*, under the headline "Walk a mile," appeared two letters from women ABA members protesting the cover illustration, as

well as the following:

Note from the editor and publisher: We received many critical comments about our cover art for the July issue. Mea culpa. We generally try to do a good job in this regard, but in this case we made an error in judgment and I apologize.

I for one appreciated the apology. Even the best-intentioned bar organizations can make mistakes. FAWL likewise may make a mistake or two during this



organizational year, when many changes are under way.

One significant area of change will be in our member communications. This is one of only two hard-copy *Journal* issues that will appear this year. The second issue will appear in the spring. In recent history, FAWL has budgeted for four issues a year and has cut back to three

because of budgetary restraints. The publication is expensive, making up about a third of FAWL's recent budgets.

This year, we are planning for only two issues of the *Journal* so we can improve other member communications. Look for a monthly electronic newsletter, the *FAWL E-News*, which will

provide more timely communications about upcoming events and programs.

FAWL also will experiment with advertising in the *Florida Bar News* to promote membership in the association and our events and programming. We are planning at least three half-page ads during the course of the year.

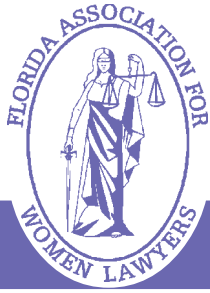
We also plan significant improvements in our website, www.fawl.org. By the end of 2003, the website will be upgraded completely to allow access for each chapter to update and promote its own events. Each FAWL member also will be able to access his or her own directory listing to make address changes and corrections. That is just the highlights of the website upgrade. Make sure you bookmark the site as one of your favorites, and keep an eye on our many improvements.

FAWL also is growing. In July, we greeted a new chapter, the South Palm Beach County Chapter. In September, we welcomed the Miami Law Women, an established women's group at the University of Miami School of Law, which just decided to come under the FAWL umbrella. Other potential chapters have contacted FAWL expressing interest in joining.

FAWL has a long history of lobbying the Florida Legislature on issues of importance to women and women lawyers. We hope to rejuvenate those efforts for the 2004 legislative session. Spearheading that effort are pro bono lobbyist **Lori Weems** of Holland & Knight in Tallahassee and Legislative Committee Chair **Nola Richardson**. FAWL wants at least one member from every chapter to serve on the Legislative Committee, so we have

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How does this happen? Who would not recognize the message of exclusion?



Florida Association for Women Lawyers

MEMBER APPLICATION

Application also available at website: <http://www.fawl.org/>



All applications submitted through the FAWL office are forwarded to local chapters along with payment for local dues or send to the address noted for each chapter below.

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP: New Member Renewal Student Address / Information Change

NAME _____

Florida Bar Number Check here if not a member of The Florida Bar

Firm/Employer _____

Law School (*Student Members Only*) _____

Mailing Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Business Phone _____ Home Phone _____ Fax _____

E-Mail Address _____ In providing an e-mail address, the member opts to receive electronic newsletters or other relevant membership information.

Areas of Practice: _____

Payment includes local and state dues. Check appropriate chapter and remit corresponding payment to chapter address or FL Assn. for Women Lawyers; P.O. Box 15998; Tallahassee, FL 32317-5998.

- Brevard Cnty. Assn. for Women Lawyers, *c/o Kathleen Smith, P.O. Box 6699, Titusville 32782-6699* \$50
- Broward Cnty. Women Lawyers Assn, *4875 N. Federal Hwy, 10th Floor, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308* \$60, \$35 Students
- Central FL Assn. for Women Lawyers, *c/o Barbara R. Smith, P.O. Box 3794, Orlando 32802* \$75, \$35 Students
- Clara Gehan Association for Women Lawyers, *c/o Ruth Gormé, P.O. Box 3188, Ocala 34478-3188* \$45
- Collier County Women's Bar Assn, *5811 Pelican Bay Blvd., #600, Naples 34108* \$60, \$40 Gov/Student
- FAWL at Stetson, *1401 61st Street South, St. Petersburg 33707* \$17 Student
- Hillsborough Association for Women Lawyers, *P.O. Box 173565, Tampa 33602* \$70
- Jacksonville Women Lawyers Assn., *P.O. Box 1923, Jacksonville 32204* \$80
- Lee County Association for Women Lawyers, *P.O. Box 280, Fort Myers, Florida 33902-0280* \$60
- Manatee County FAWL, *P.O. Box 1594, Bradenton 34206-1594* \$50
- Marion County Chapter, *c/o Janet Fuller, 1130 S.E. 17th St., Ocala, FL 344711* \$30
- Miami-Dade FAWL, *P.O. Box 110708, Miami 33144-0708* \$60, \$25 Students
- Miami Law Women, *University of Miami School of Law* \$10 Students
- Northwest FL Chapter of FAWL, *c/o Maureen Duignan, 226 S. Palafox Place, 9th FL, Pensacola 32504* \$50
- Nova Law Center Chapter, *Shepard Broad Law Center, 3305 College Ave. Davie 33314* \$15 Student
- Palm Beach Cnty Assn. for Women Lawyers, *c/o Elisha Roy, 4420 Beacon Cir, W.P.B. 33407* \$60
- Pinellas County Association for Women Lawyers, *133 N. Fort Harrison Dr., Clearwater 33755* \$65
- St. Thomas University Law School Chapter \$35
- Sarasota FL Assn. for Women Lawyers, *P.O. Box 50512, Sarasota 34232* \$65
- South Palm Beach Cnty Chapter, *c/o Amy Fanzlaw, P.O. Drawer 40, Boca Raton 33429* \$60, \$30 Student
- Tallahassee Women Lawyers, *P.O. Box 10567, Tallahassee, 32302* \$60
- Treasure Coast Assn. for Women Lawyers, *P.O. Box 2904, Stuart, 34995* \$65, \$35 Gov/Student
- Volusia/Flagler Assn. for Women Lawyers, *P.O. Box 15214, Daytona Bch 32114* \$60, \$10 Student
- Not affiliated with a Local Chapter \$30

A Tribute To *Judge Mattie Belle Davis* (1910–2003)



by WENDY S.
LOQUASTO
FAWL
Historian

An enormous piece of FAWL's history is gone. I am speaking of **Judge Mattie Belle Davis**, FAWL's Historian for Life, who passed away on July 3, 2003. She was the epitome of FAWL—its consummate representative. She rose from legal secretary to self-educated lawyer in 1936, when she was the only woman from Miami to be admitted to The Florida Bar. She practiced law with her husband for twelve years and then continued that practice after his death as a sole practitioner until 1959, when she was appointed to the Metropolitan Court of Dade County. As a result of the constitutional amendment in 1973, Judge Davis became a County Court Judge and was consistently reelected to that position until she retired on December 31, 1980, due to the age limitation in the Florida Constitution. She continued to serve as a Retired Judge, however, on both the County and Circuit Bench until June 1996, when she concluded her 60-year legal career.

Along the way, Judge Davis had a tremendous impact. She became an expert on traffic safety issues, having been appointed by President Lyndon Johnson and Governors Askew and Graham to the National Highway Safety Advisory Committee (1967-70) and Governor's Highway Safety Commission of Florida (1971-81). While serving on the National Safety Council (1965-80), she helped develop the Council's driver-improvement program, which has been taken by millions of drivers. (I think it is

safe to say that we all know at least one person who has gone to "traffic school.")

Her involvement in community programs and charities was extensive, and she has been recognized time and again for her community service. In fact, the Dade County Board of County Commissioners proclaimed March 3, 1987, "Judge Mattie Belle Davis Day," and the Community Coalition for Women's History named her a "Woman of Impact of South Florida" in 1994. As part of Miami's centennial celebration in 1996, Judge Davis was designated a "Pioneer Judge," and upon the nomination of the Miami-Dade County Commission on the Status of Women, she was inducted into the Florida Women's Hall of Fame in 1998.

Judge Davis was also well known for her extensive activities in various bar and professional organizations. After holding numerous offices in the National Association for Women Lawyers, she became its President in 1965-66. She served almost continuously from 1967 until 1981 in the American Bar Association's House of Delegates, and she is the only woman to have received the ABA Fellows' 50-Year Award as a lawyer who, during more than 50 years of practice, had "adhered to the highest principles and traditions in the legal profession." As temporary chairwoman, she presided at the founding conference of the National Association of Women Judges in 1979. The Miami-Dade FAWL Chapter recognized her in 1986 as the "Finest Example of Jurist, Counselor and Mentor" and established the Mattie Belle Davis Award, which is presented annually to "honor the woman who has done the most to promote women and the administration of justice."

Judge Davis' outstanding legal career, extensive community service, and numerous awards warrant recognition and honor by all. She has earned a special place of adoration and honor, however, in the hearts and minds of Florida's women lawyers. I have told the story many times. She was a founding member of FAWL in 1951, served as President in 1957-58, and



was FAWL's Historian for Life. What needs to be stressed now, as we reflect upon her accomplishments, is that Judge Davis did not simply join FAWL, move up the ladder to become President, and move on to other venues. No. Judge Davis made a lifetime commitment to FAWL, and, in doing so, she has influenced generations of women lawyers in Florida.

As I endeavored to compose a fitting tribute to Judge Davis, it occurred to me that a collection of the thoughts and comments of those who have felt her influence would be best. I solicited comments from FAWL's Presidents and

other influential women lawyers and I offer their thoughts to honor the memory of FAWL's one and only, Judge Mattie Belle Davis.

**DINITA L. JAMES,
FAWL PRESIDENT 2003–04:**

"The important roles and contributions of women often are omitted from the history books. Judge Davis single-handedly assured that such an omission would not occur for women lawyers in Florida. I was so honored to be present when the FAWL history was unveiled in Miami in January as a gift from Judge Davis to all FAWL members. My personal copy, autographed by Judge Davis that day, always will be one of my most treasured possessions."

**JUDGE ROSEMARY BARKETT,
UNITED STATES COURT OF
APPEALS, ELEVENTH CIRCUIT:**

"Someone once said that we all stand upon the shoulders of others when we succeed at anything, and I think that cannot be more true than in the case of Mattie Belle Davis and women in the legal profession. I will not belabor the obvious: that Mattie Belle was a pioneer as a lawyer and as a judge, that she not only set an example but also contributed directly to individuals and the profession by her pioneer work in organizations like associations of women lawyers and women judges. However, she did much more. She was a constant support to all of us because she never quit and because she took such pleasure and joy in the accomplishments of others. Her constant presence at all of the events that dealt with women in the profession, even when she became ill, was an inspiration to anyone that might be tempted to give up on a project or a cause. I will never forget her generosity and genuine joy when I was appointed to the Supreme Court of Florida. The best accolade we can give is to imitate. So, I, like others whom she touched, will continue to try to always emulate her commitment and generous spirit."

**EDITH G. OSMAN,
PAST PRESIDENT 1989–90:**

"To me, Mattie Belle was not a mentor, that was probably earlier in time for her, but she was a symbol, ever present, encouraging us to always keep women lawyers in the forefront. She frequently

took pictures of my many swearing-ins and shared them with me later. She relished my winning the Florida Bar Presidency—she could not have been prouder—a fact that she shared with me frequently. For the Dade FAWL presidents, she was at every meeting and I think she was at every State FAWL meeting, too. Her devotion to FAWL and to the achievements of woman lawyers was boundless."

**BARBARA A. EAGAN,
PAST PRESIDENT 2000–01:**

"I commenced practice in Miami in 1988 and at the urging of a partner in my firm, became a member of Dade-FAWL and, thus, FAWL. At each and every meeting, this fabulous older woman would appear. At times she would address the group and share her insight. That woman was Judge Mattie Belle Davis. As a new attorney, I was so impressed that this person had been a judge in Dade County when there were hardly any other women lawyers, much less women judges. I learned that she actually read the law and apprenticed rather than attending law school to become a lawyer. Her history fascinated me. Through all the years that I was involved with Dade-FAWL, CFAWL and FAWL, I do not think she missed more than a handful of meetings. She was our teacher and our inspiration. I greatly miss her presence."



**JUSTICE BARBARA J. PARIENTE,
FLORIDA SUPREME COURT:**

"There never was a statewide meeting of FAWL where I did not see Mattie Belle Davis' smiling face. To me, Judge Davis represented all women judges, all women lawyers, and the essence of FAWL. She always had a kind and appreciative word for me. That kindness and special smile is something that I will miss - and I know we will all miss."

**FORMER U.S. ATTORNEY
GENERAL JANET RENO:**

"When I first appeared before her, Mattie Belle Davis was a stern judge who demanded the best of all lawyers who

appeared before her. I tried to be doubly prepared when I was in her Court. In the process, I learned that behind that grave countenance was a warm caring person who did so much to help me and so many others become better lawyers. She blazed a trail for us."

**JUDGE OF COMPENSATION
CLAIMS JUDITH A. BRECHNER,
PAST PRESIDENT 1974–76:**

"I first met Mattie Belle Davis at a legal sorority meeting to which I was invited as a freshman law student at the University of Miami in 1961. I remember so clearly how strongly she supported women in the profession. She was a constant source of encouragement throughout the years. We reveled in her achievements and she in ours. When I started law school there were 6 women in the freshman class and only 10 in the entire law school. When I graduated there were only 2 of us left in my class. It was important to have a person of Mattie Belle's achievements, who had earned the greatest respect from her judicial colleagues and the legal profession in general, on our side. She was a terrific mainstay of FAWL. When I was FAWL President (1974–76), much had improved professionally for women since the 60's, but there was still a long way to go and Mattie Belle was always there. Her work in FAWL and in other organizations paved the way for the positive recognition and respect women lawyers enjoy today."

**SIOBHAN HELENE SHEA,
PAST PRESIDENT 2002–03:**

"The first time I met Judge Mattie Belle Davis was at a mid-year State FAWL meeting in Miami. Judge Davis stayed after the luncheon for a board meeting and told the board members that she was working on a publication of the history of FAWL. I had been working on Palm Beach County FAWL's history and Judge Davis encouraged me to document the chapter's history and to send her whatever I wrote. I remember being impressed that Judge Davis was attending the State FAWL meetings and was active as an historian and member of the organization. She was both charming and energetic. That was in 1996. As I became more active in State FAWL, Judge Davis was less present over the next seven years, due to her health. However, whatever challenges she faced, they did

not stop Judge Davis from traveling all the way to Orlando to help commemorate FAWL's fiftieth birthday at the Annual Meeting in 2001. Then in 2002, Judge Davis traveled up to the annual meeting in Boca Raton to receive the Lifetime Achievement Award, which we began in her honor. Finally, due to the relentless work of **Wendy Loquasto**, Judge Davis' *A History of FAWL* was released at the mid-year meeting in January 2003. As President of FAWL, I had the honor of presenting Judge Davis with a bouquet of flowers and proposing a champagne toast. Judge Davis provided us not only with the enduring gift of FAWL's History, which she composed and published on her own initiative, but with the guidance and leadership of her active FAWL membership, and for which we are eternally grateful. We were lucky to have Judge Davis' faithful friend, **Henrietta Biscoe**, ever present as a travel companion and active FAWL member, at all these events. Judge Davis was always friendly and eager to help FAWL. If you read the history, it is inspiring how active she was in forming FAWL, representing us statewide, nationally and internationally, and how devoted she was to educating the public, lawyers, and judges about equality and the law."

**LESLIE REICIN STEIN,
PAST PRESIDENT 1991–92:**

"I had the honor of working with Mattie Belle Davis in the development of FAWL's history for our 40th Anniversary Party. It was fascinating to hear her stories about the early days of practicing law in Florida and the challenges she and her colleagues encountered. She was indeed a great and memorable woman and an inspiration to all young lawyers. She will be greatly missed."

**SUSAN W. FOX,
PAST PRESIDENT 2001–02:**

"Judge Davis' life set an example. She showed that a single life well lived can influence the world around her. She also showed that by joining with other like-minded people, we can change the world. With Judge Davis among us for over 50 years, FAWL had a living witness to the inequalities that inspired its creation. Judge Davis also had the unique foresight to preserve the history of the organization that would otherwise have been lost. She not only brought our history to life,



LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT: *President Susan Fox presented the inaugural FAWL Lifetime Achievement Award to Judge Mattie Belle Davis at the annual meeting in Boca Raton, "In recognition of Lifelong Dedication Towards the Success of Women Lawyers in the Legal Profession June 21, 2002."*

she kept our reason for being alive for us. Even in parting, she made sure the memories did not die with her, but left us the history book as her final gift."

**HENRIETTA S. BISCOE,
ASSISTANT FAWL HISTORIAN:**

"Although Mattie Belle was often heard to say she just drifted along through life, it remains that she helped many others steer a steady course to achievement and success, and she was always so very proud of the accomplishments of FAWL and its members."

**JUDGE GILL A. FREEMAN,
PAST PRESIDENT 1984–85:**

"Being involved with FAWL always involved Judge Mattie Belle Davis. She was always there and there was everywhere. She loved to see us succeed. She encouraged us always to push the envelope and open doors for ourselves and those who were to follow. In the mid- to late 80's when I became most active in FAWL, I not only attended statewide functions of all types, but I also attended meetings of the American Bar Association, National Association for Women Lawyers, National Association for Women Business Owners, as well as the Business Professional Women's Organization. Judge Mattie Belle Davis was always there. Not only was she there, but she was usually a past president or occupied some other revered title. What I remember most about Judge Davis was one special, particular day when Justice Barkett was being invested as the first woman justice of the Florida Supreme Court. Judge **Sandy Karlan** and I went, not only to celebrate **Justice Barkett's** investiture, but also to take the occasion

to lobby the justices to create a Gender Bias Study Commission. Of course, we were not judges at the time; in fact we were barely more than young lawyers. We met up with Judge Davis, who as I previously mentioned, was always there. When she heard of our mission, she took us in tow, went to each and every Justice's office, introduced us and told the Justice to listen to what we had to say. It was quite an introduction and an entrance that neither of us would have had, but for her taking us. It was

very clear that the Justices all knew and respected her enough to extend to us the courtesy of the interview. It was not until two years later that we were able to accomplish the formation of the Florida Supreme Court Gender Bias Commission, but our very first effort was made possible by her active support and affirmative action."

**JUDGE MAURA T. SMITH,
PAST PRESIDENT 1987–88:**

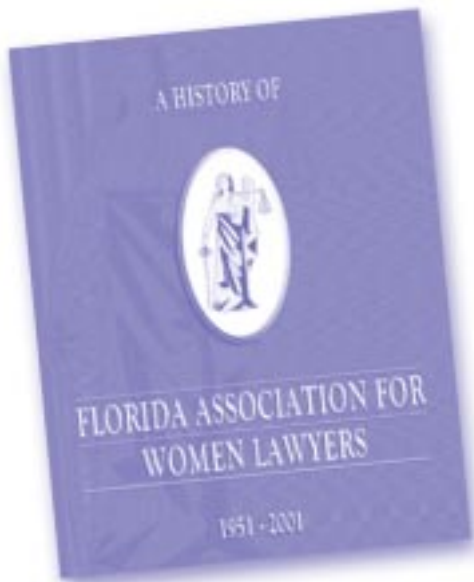
"Judge Davis was the living history of FAWL. She frequently honored us with her presence at lunches and meetings and gave perspective and class to all our gatherings. Every time I saw her I understood that what we were doing was important."

**JUDGE ANNE E'DEL
DEACON FENYVESSY,
PAST PRESIDENT 1959–60:**

"Judge Davis was a wonderful role model, whom I admired very much."

**ADELE T. WEAVER,
PAST PRESIDENT 1967–68:**

"When I was President of FAWL, I had already known Mattie Belle for some 15 to 20 years. She had asked me to be her Editor of the Women's Law Journal during her term as President. Therefore we worked together frequently and from her I gained my perspective of what FAWL was all about. So I tried to instill the love of the law and the profession in all young women law students, and to the public in general. I was a good friend of Mattie Belle's; we traveled together many times. We went to Canada for an ABA convention, and afterwards we drove along the St. Lawrence River and through



Judge Davis's *A History of FAWL* was released at the mid-year meeting in January 2003. "Judge Davis provided us not only with the enduring gift of FAWL's history, which she composed and published on her own initiative," Past President Shioban Shea wrote, "but with the guidance and leadership of her active FAWL membership, and for which we are eternally grateful." ■

the Eastern Provinces. We also went to Hawaii together (another ABA convention) and to many meetings across the state of Florida. Now for the personal side of Mattie Belle! She had a sense of humor. When we traveled in the state of Florida, she insisted on using her car. But I had to drive, and as I drove she read the newspaper. Her reading consisted of glancing at each page and as she saw something interesting, she tore out the article and dropped it on the floor for future reading. Eventually, there was a pile of clippings on the floor. Once, while I was driving east on Alligator Alley from the west coast of Florida, there suddenly was a terrible noise from the car. Startled, I automatically pulled my foot off the gas pedal and looked at her, but she didn't look up—she just kept on 'reading.' Now the car went along smoothly, so I regained my speed. There was no traffic and the highway was meant for 'cruising. Suddenly this terrible noise occurred again. This time I screamed, 'Mattie Belle, there's something wrong with this car!' Without looking up, she dryly remarked, 'Perhaps you were speeding.' It then dawned on me she had installed a speed device so that she would never be caught speeding! About a month before her death, I

went to a Zonta luncheon in honor of Mattie Belle, but she wasn't there—she was ill. So I called her that day and told her I was coming to visit her the next day. I brought her the luncheon program, showing on the front the heading, 'In honor of MATTIE BELLE DAVIS.' She smiled, said, 'Adele' and closed her eyes again. After chatting with her friend, **Henrietta Biscoe**, I kissed Mattie Belle goodbye and left, knowing that was the last time I would see her alive."

DEBRA WEISS GOODSTONE, PAST PRESIDENT 1982-83:

What can you say
That hasn't been said
Mattie Belle is now gone
But her dreams aren't dead
She led through example
A beacon of light
With each first she hurdled
An invisible fight
A model of justice
A model of care
Her handprints and vision
Are left everywhere
So for generations that follow
The road that she paved
May her legacy be carved there
And her memory be saved ■

Judge Fenyvessy Achieves Milestone

by WENDY S. LOQUASTO
FAWL Historian

Judge Anne E'del Deacon Fenyvessy, FAWL Past President

(1959-60), celebrated her 100th birthday on October 3, 2003, at Saint Mary's Assisted Living Facility in West Palm Beach. Judge Fenyvessy was honored in 2000 as part of the first 150 Women Lawyers' Celebration. She was admitted to practice law in Florida in 1942 after graduating from Temple University. She was a law clerk for Florida Supreme Court Justice **E. Harris Drew**, but fell in love with flying. She enlisted in the



United States Navy in 1942 and rose to the rank of second highest commissioned officer in the 7th Naval District in Miami. At the conclusion of the war, she used the GI Bill to attend Morton Art

Institute in West Palm Beach. She pursued a career in art for ten years, but returned to Lantana, Florida in 1952 to begin a solo legal practice, specializing in family law and probate. In 1956 she became Florida's fourth woman judge when she was appointed as the first municipal judge in Palm Beach County. Judge Fenyvessy retired from

the bench in 1966, but she continued to practice law until 1988. FAWL wishes Judge Fenyvessy all the best! ■





Immediate Past President, Siobhan H. Shea, Kelly Overstreet Johnson (with the 2003 Rosemary Barkett Outstanding Achievement Award) and Dinita James, FAWL President.

Kelly Overstreet Johnson Receives Rosemary Barkett Outstanding Achievement Award



by FRANCES GRACE COOPER
Journal Editor

It has been said that women can have it all... they just can't have it all at once.

Kelly Overstreet Johnson is a fine example of just how untrue that statement is. FAWL presented her with the 2003 Rosemary Barkett Outstanding Achievement Award at the Annual Meeting, held in Orlando in June. The award is presented each year by FAWL, to recognize the

outstanding achievements of women who have promoted the status of women lawyers in the community and the profession, as well as to recognize those FAWL members who have been particularly successful in overcoming

stereotypes, and then go on to great accomplishments, yet still contribute back to the profession.

Kelly is the epitome of this award, her life striking a rich balance between family, career and leadership. She is a Florida native, born in Tallahassee. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in Real Estate and Pre-Law from Florida State

University in 1979, and her law degree, with honors, from FSU, in 1982. She has been litigating ever since. She first worked for the Florida Department of Legal Affairs, staying there for two years. She then went to work for Ervin, Varn, Jacobs, Odom & Kitchen, from 1985–1988. She then opened her own practice, from 1988–1990. In 1990, she joined Broad and Cassel, where she is now a partner. She concentrates her practice in the areas of commercial litigation, employment law, and class action litigation.

Kelly's leadership activities are numerous. She is now President-Elect of The Florida Bar, and will be installed as the Bar's third woman president in June 2004. Other



Kelly with her husband, Hal Johnson, and twin daughters, Haley and Baley.

activities include: President-Tallahassee Women Lawyers, 1984–85; Treasurer-FAWL, 1988–89; President-Tallahassee Bar Association, 1990–91 (first woman president); American Bar Association House of Delegates, 1992–94; and The Florida Bar Board of Governors, 1997–2003.

What is perhaps so amazing about Kelly is that her personal life has flourished, along with her career. She has been married for 23 years to **Hal Johnson**, another lawyer, and two years ago, she became a first-time mom, giving birth to twin daughters, **Haley** and **Baley**. Kelly describes her husband as

understanding and supportive of her career and leadership roles. She also describes him as a "fabulous Dad" and a "totally equal partner," and notes that the equality and support are key components of her successes. She wants her daughters to grow up to be independent, but to know their mom is always there for them. Regarding that independence, Kelly envisions that her daughters "can do anything they want in the world."

When asked what pearls of wisdom she could offer to other women lawyers seeking to balance their personal and professional lives, Kelly stated, "Planning, hard work, organization and desire. But most of all, believe you can do it all!"

Kelly plans to stay involved in Bar activities, even after her term as President is complete. She feels these activities are an important part of her life and who she is. She also wants to spend more time with her daughters and get involved with their activities, in addition to continuing to build her practice, and mentoring other attorneys. Balance is key and Kelly says, "By staying balanced, I can do it all well."

When asked about what receiving the Outstanding Achievement Award meant to her, Kelly exclaimed, "I couldn't believe it! I really admire Judge Barkett." She keeps the award in her office, where she sees it every day.

FAWL is proud to recognize Kelly Overstreet Johnson for her accomplishments and leadership, and for inspiring women attorneys throughout Florida. ■

2003 ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Joint Awards Luncheon:

FAWL, The Equal Opportunities Law Section of The Florida Bar and the Virgil Hawkins Florida Chapter National Bar Association



THE TWO AVAS: Ava Doppelt (left), FAWL President 1990–1994, and Ava Parker, Virgil Hawkins President, 2002–2003.



FRIEND OF FAWL: State Representative Arthenia Joyner (center) receives the Friend of FAWL Award from FAWL President Dinita James (left) and outgoing President Siobhan Shea.



VIRGIL HAWKINS AWARD: Justice Peggy Quince receives the Helping Hand Award from Virgil Hawkins Bar President-elect Ben Crump.



SWEARING IN: The 2003–2004 FAWL Officers are sworn in by Florida Supreme Court Judge Peggy Quince.



Judge Emerson Thompson and Edith Osman, President of The Florida Bar (1999) and FAWL President (1989–90).



Broward County FAWL President Jamie Finizio-Bascombe and U.S. District Judge Patricia A. Sikes, President of The Florida Bar (1993).



BROWARD COUNTY WOMEN LAWYERS' ASSOCIATION

The **Broward County Women Lawyers Association** often hosts complimentary CLE programs under a "Lunch and Learn" format. The Sept. 17 program featured **Rhonda Hollander**, a qualified arbitrator and trainer for arbitrators, speaking on "Mandatory Non-Binding Arbitration." The Chapter often holds CLE luncheon programs at the Tower Club in Fort Lauderdale. For information on upcoming programs, contact Broward President **Candice Tobin** at 954/769-5491.

CENTRAL FLORIDA ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN LAWYERS

Lee's Lakeside continues to be the 2003–2004 site for membership luncheons for the **Central Florida Association for Women Lawyers** (CFAWL). The Chapter maintains a website at <http://www.cfawl.org> and posts a schedule of all luncheon dates and board meetings. Board meetings are typically held at the Orange County Bar Association. Formed in 1980, the Chapter sponsors events including the Professional Women's Exchange, Judicial Reception, the Great Oaks Village Wish List, Law Day events, New Members Reception, and a Professional Leadership Development program.

COLLIER COUNTY WOMEN LAWYERS' ASSOCIATION

Monthly meetings for the **Collier County Women's Lawyers Association** included the following topics and speakers for the 2003–2004 year: July 23—"Domestic Violence," with **Deborah J. Schwartz** from the Office of the State Attorney; Aug. 27–

"Conversion to a Paperless Filing System," with the Honorable **Douglas N. Frazier**, U.S. Magistrate Judge, U.S. District Court-Middle District of Florida; Sept. 17—Joint Fall reception with the Lee County Women's Bar Association sponsored by Lexis Nexis; Oct. 22—"How to Keep Your Law Practice from Managing You" with **Amira Swett** of the Wilbur Law Firm; and upcoming on Jan. 28—"Title IX Legislation: An Update on Title IX," with **Merrily Dean Baker**, Former Athletic Director, FGCU. The Association will host its Annual Holiday Party on Dec. 10.

HILLSBOROUGH ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN LAWYERS

Susan W. Fox, a past **Hillsborough Association for Women Lawyers** (HAWL) President and 2001–2002 State FAWL President, shares that HAWL's Pro Bono Committee is working with the University of South Florida's Kinship Care Program to set up a system to support the program's telephone hotline. Documentation forwarded to the state FAWL office states, "As kinship care arrangements become more common, providing services that address the financial and legal needs of both relative caregivers and the children in their care is a growing concern for attorneys, social workers and other family-service professionals." Susan also says, "The University of South Florida's program is statewide and they would love to have a statewide association to help with the program." If other chapters are interested in the telephone hotline project under consideration by HAWL, Susan can be reached at swf@macfar.com or contact **Michelle Suskauer**, at suskauerlaw@aol.com. Michelle is FAWL's Public Service Chair and also coordinates the "Breakfast and Books" program, a juvenile justice mentoring program for young women in

high risk detention centers. HAWL continues to host membership luncheon meetings at the Tampa Club at 101 E. Kennedy in Tampa.

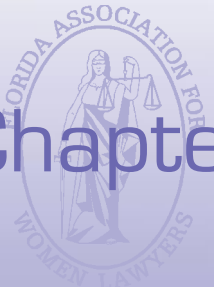
JACKSONVILLE WOMEN LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

A kickoff for the **Jacksonville Women Lawyers Association** Mentoring Program was held on Oct. 1, with **Katherine Clark Silverglate** of The Florida Bar's Committee on Professionalism serving as the keynote luncheon speaker. Upcoming programs are listed on the Association's website at www.jwla.org. Unless otherwise noted on the website, all meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at noon at the River City Brewing Company. Other events scheduled for the year include: Nov. 5—Florida Bar President Elect **Kelly Overstreet Johnson**; Dec. 3 at 5:30 p.m., location TBA—Holiday Party; Jan. 7—Joint Luncheon with Jacksonville Area Legal Aid; Feb. 4—Women in Politics; March 3—Women's History Month; April 7—Judicial Panel; May 5—Community Trusteeship; June 10 at 5:30 p.m., Jacksonville Museum of Modern Art—Judicial Reception.

The Association provides support to the Jacksonville Area Legal Aid, the Women's Center of Jacksonville, Florida Coastal School of Law Women Law Students' Association, Dress for Success Pro Bono Committee of the 4th Judicial Circuit, Florida Legal Help and First Call for Help.

Officers for 2003–2004:

President, **Paola Parra**; President Elect, **Paula Brice**; Vice President of Public Relations, **Deborah Greene**; Vice President of Membership and Special Events, **Caroline Emery**; Vice President of Information Technology, **Michele Lellouche**; Vice President of


FAWL Local Chapter Happenings

Professional Development, **Susan Haag**; Treasurer, **Maria Keebler**; and Secretary, **Heather Collins**.

LEE COUNTY WOMEN LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

During a Special Session on Aug. 27, the **Lee County Women Lawyer's Association's** Officers voted to initiate and immediately implement a Young Lawyers' Committee as part of the women's organization, which will support the Young Lawyers Section of the Florida Bar and its local affiliated chapter(s). The LCWLA will now be part of the Affiliate Outreach Program of the Young Lawyers Division of the Florida Bar, and will be sending their Chapter Representative to the Young Lawyers' Affiliate Outreach Conference in Tampa Oct. 24 and 25. If anyone is interested in serving on the Young Lawyers' Committee of the LCWLA, please contact the Chapter President, **Carolyn Delizia**, who will Chair this Committee. Her email address is carolyn.delizia@henlaw.com. The Association also supports a Teen Mentoring Program sponsored by the Lee County Bar Association and bimonthly CLER luncheon programs.

In accordance with Florida Bar President **Miles McGrane's** "Challenge For Children," Lee County Women Lawyers, in cooperation with the Collier County Women Lawyers' Association, have launched the "Voices For Kids" charitable donation drive, to be known as the GAL project. It is the fund-raising and resource arm for the Guardian Ad Litem Program of Collier, Charlotte, Glades, Hendry and Lee Counties. Their mission is to collect and disseminate to the children, through the Voices For Kids of S.W. Florida, the items for which they are in dire need including: sports items (rubber kickballs, nerf balls, baseball mitts, sports balls), personal

hygiene for teenage girls, baby wipes, lotion, educational safe toys, small stuffed animals for infants (sewn on eyes, noses), and educational and fun books for all ages.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY FAWL

September was a busy month for **Miami-Dade County FAWL**. On Sept. 5, the Chapter hosted a Gallery Night Gala and Auction to benefit the "Haitian Women's Legal Project." The gala was held at the beautiful Colonnade Hotel in Coral Gables and included dinner with an open bar sponsored by Barcardi, along with a wine-tasting sponsored by Everything Wine. Attendees included: Congresswoman **Carrie Meek**, Mayor of the City of Coral Gables **Don Slesnick**, Mayor of the City of North Miami **Joe Celestin**, **Marlene Bastien**, **Rudolph Moise**, M.D.; **Arthur M. Fournier**, M.D.; **Barth A. Green**, M.D., F.A.C.S.; **Michel J. Dodard**, M.D. **Elizabeth J. du Fresne**, Esq. served as the Mistress of Ceremonies. On Sept. 25, at an event for FAWL members at the Biltmore Hotel, the Chapter presented the "2003 Friend of FAWL" Award to Florida Senator



'VOICES FOR KIDS' KICKOFF: Approximately 50 lawyers, including judges, attended a joint fall reception sponsored by the Lee County Women Lawyers and the Collier County Women Lawyers on September 17. The event served as the kickoff for "Voices for Kids," a support group for the Guardian Ad Litem program of the 20th Judicial Circuit. Pictured are (from left) Circuit Court Judge Lauren Miller, Collier County; Laurie Anton, Secretary, Lee County Women Lawyers Association; Carolyn Delizia, President, Lee County Women Lawyers Association; and Jeanne Seawald, President, Collier County Women Lawyers Association.

Gwen Margolis in recognition of her efforts to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment in the 2003 Florida Legislative Session.

"Rainmaking Secrets of the Pros" was the topic for Miami-Dade County's FAWL Business Development CLE luncheon, on Oct. 23, and held at The

Banker's Club. Speakers and panel members included **Hilarie Bass**, a shareholder in Greenberg Traurig, LLP and recently named one of Miami's "Best Rainmakers," **Marsha B. Elser**, listed in "Best Lawyers in America" and a founding member of Elser, Foster-Morales & Kopoco, LLP; **Tracy Nichols**, a partner in the Miami office of Holland & Knight LLP and listed in "America's Best Lawyers," **Maria L. Rubio**, a partner with Leesfied Leighton Robio Mahfood & Boyers, P.A. and listed in "Who's Who Among Practicing Attorneys." **Jennifer Coberly**, a member of The Florida Bar's Board of Governor's and former FAWL President served as the moderator of the program.

PALM BEACH COUNTY ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN LAWYERS

The Honorable **Lois M. Frankel**, Mayor of Palm Beach and a longtime FAWL member; installed new officers for the **Palm Beach County Association for Women Lawyers** on October 21. Taking office for the 2003-2004 term are **Cynthia Spall**, President; **Ellen Malasky**, President-elect; **Elisha D. Roy**, Treasurer and **Sharon R. Bock**, Secretary.

PINELLAS COUNTY ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN LAWYERS

In 2003-2004, the **Pinellas County Association for Women Lawyers** (PC-FAWL) is providing a substantive program at each monthly meeting. These programs are designed to broaden the knowledge and enhance the skills and lifestyles of the chapter's diverse membership. Programs range from the most fundamental aspects of balancing both professional and private life to the latest practice developments. As an added bonus, several of the programs provide members with free CLE! Most of the programs are held at 6 p.m. in the Sonoma Room at Tuscon's on Ulmerton Road in Clearwater and require an RSVP as seating can be limited. Programs include: Nov. 13-Esteemed Chief **Judge Demers** provided CLE credit on professionalism; Dec. 11-**Judge Sullivan** provides

complementary CLE credit on the Unified Family Court and Domestic Violence, Jan. 22—Guest **Dinita James**, FAWL President (2003–04) and Tampa attorney, is a partner in Ford & Harrison, LLP. She has extensive experience litigating complex matters in state and federal court, including large employment discrimination class actions, and has represented employers in defense of individual cases arising under anti-discrimination, whistleblower protection and anti-retaliation laws in enforcement of non-competition and trade secrets, Feb. 12—Guest **Deborah London Baker**, professional coach and motivational speaker, will present ideas to help recognize professional greatness in and out of the courtroom! Ms. Baker is a Certified Professional Behavior Analyst and a Certified Behavior Values Analyst. She works nationally and internationally with offices in Tampa, March—**M. Diane Vogt**, nationally recognized speaker and Tampa attorney. She is author of the Judge Wilhelmina Carson legal suspense series of novels set in Tampa. *Justice Denied*, *Gasparilla Gold*, and *Six Bills* followed her first book, *Silicon Solution*. Her newest book is *Black Money*.

In addition to the education programming, PC-FAWL members toured the private art collection of **Tom and Mary James** in October. The tour was courtesy of Raymond James & Associates. President **Susan Hartman** sends out a PC-FAWL News Flash on a regular basis to members to keep them informed of upcoming events.

SARASOTA FAWL

Sarasota FAWL held its Installation Dinner in June, with Keynote speaker and Florida Bar President Elect, **Kelly Overstreet Johnson**.

Officers for 2003–2004:

President, **Alyssa Sells**; Vice President, **Evelyn L. Moya**; Treasurer, **Anne G. Stinnett**; Secretary, **Marjorie A. Schmoeyer**. Board members are **Sherri L. Johnson** (Immediate Past President), **Frances Cooper**, **Lisa Conley**, **Patricia Crauwels**, **Teresa D. Jones**, **Telese McKay**, **Barbi Meyer**, and **Christine R. Sensenig**.

Also in June, Sarasota FAWL and

Manatee FAWL co-sponsored a CLE on Appellate Law, at the Sarasota Ritz Carlton. Speakers included retired Supreme Court Justice **Stephen Grimes**, 2nd DCA Judges **John Blue**, **James Whatley**, **Virginia Covington** and **Carolyn Fulmer**, and 12th Judicial Circuit Judge **Paul Logan**. Sarasota FAWL wishes to recognize member **Patricia Crauwels** and Manatee FAWL member **Carol Masio Maguire**, for their efforts in organizing a top-notch CLE seminar!



SARASOTA SPOTLIGHT:

Vene Hamilton presents a plaque to Alyssa Sells at the Florida Bar Leaders Conference.

In July, at the Florida Voluntary Bar Leaders Conference, Sarasota FAWL was recognized with a "Spotlight" plaque for its work in developing the Child Witness Testimony Room at the Sarasota Judicial Center. **Vene Hamilton**, President of the Voluntary Bar Leaders Liaison Committee (and also FAWL Secretary) presented the plaque to Sarasota FAWL President **Alyssa Sells**.

Member events this year included another successful Spa Day, held at Safety Harbor Resort & Spa, a September luncheon on preparing an employee handbook, presented by Sarasota FAWL members **Christine R. Sensenig** and **Lorraine Maass Hultman**, a Halloween party at the home of member **Teresa Jones**, and a November luncheon with guest speaker **Kirsten Severs** of Smith Barney, who spoke on financial investments for women and taught the members how to read a stock page. On Dec. 12, Sarasota FAWL will host its annual holiday

party, at the home of member **Marjorie Schmoeyer**. The Association will also sponsor another needy family for the holidays, providing clothing, toys, food and other necessary items. Next year, members can look forward to another fun-filled membership drive, the Judicial Reception, and a gala celebration for the Association's 20th Anniversary in the fall of 2004.

TALLAHASSEE WOMEN LAWYERS

On July 21, two-term Tallahassee Women Lawyers President **June McKinney Bartelle** passed the gavel to **Ruth Stone**, Clinical Law Professor at FSU College of Law. Circuit Judge **Terry Lewis**, a long-time member and supporter of TWL, installed the 2003–2004 Board of Directors. TWL continues to hold dinner CLE/membership meetings at the Olive Garden on Apalachee Parkway. The programs are coordinated by Programs Chair **Celeste Adorno** and include: Aug. 18—**Judy Equels** of The Florida Bar's LOMAS program spoke on "Best Practices of Government Law Offices;" Sept. 15—FSU Clinical Law Professor and Vice-chair of The Florida Bar Committee on Quality of Life & Career, **Larry Krieger**, spoke on "Psychological Foundations of Career and Life Satisfaction" and Nov. 17—U.S. District Court Clerk **Bill McCool** will speak on the new electronic filing system.

On Oct. 16, TWL was pleased to host the 21st Annual Judicial Reception at the Mary Brogan Museum of Art and Science. **Ginger Barry** and **Carrie Roane** receive credit for their planning and fund-raising efforts for this great annual event. The association's annual Holiday Party is scheduled for December 8 at the office of **Marilyn Morris**.

► HAPPENINGS, Page 15



TALLAHASSEE WOMEN LAWYERS [from left]:

Kimberly Menchion Clark, TWL Mentoring Lunch Chair, Janet Findling, Pro Bono Chair, Judy Equels, LOMAS, Ruth Stone, President, and Sha'Ron James, Treasurer.

Congratulations to FAWL Members

- ▶ Sarasota FAWL member **Rene L. Arbuckle** is pleased to announce the establishment of her own practice. She will concentrate in the areas of arts and entertainment law.
- ▶ Palm Beach County FAWL member **Sharon R. Bock** has been promoted to the position of Chief Deputy Clerk of the West Palm Beach Clerk of the Circuit Court. Her new assignment reflects the complex and far reaching Article V changes and the need to re-evaluate the business processes for the courts, funding, budgeting and reporting requirements, and to ensure that the automated programs move forward.
- ▶ **Charlotte H. Danciu** was awarded the Adoption Advocate Award by The Florida Adoption Council. In recognition of her compassion for the children and parents whose lives are touched by adoption, for her years of devotion to improving Florida's adoption laws and for her exemplary legal and legislative work leading to the repeal of Florida's "Scarlet Letter Law." She is a 1980 graduate of FSU College of Law and a member of the Palm Beach County FAWL.
- ▶ Tallahassee Women Lawyers member **Joyce Sibson Dove** was honored by the Charming Shoppe's VOICES campaign for her work with Ukrainian orphanages. The VOICES campaign chose 100 women from nearly 3,000 women nominated nationwide. Ms. Dove's work with Ukraine has provided medical equipment and supplies through Rotary International and she has placed Ukrainian orphans with American families.
- ▶ **Betsy Ellwanger Gallagher**, formerly of Kubickik Draper, Gallagher & McGrane, P.A. and Gallagher & Howard, P.A. has joined the firm of Cole, Scott & Kissane, and P.A. as a partner in the Tampa office. She will head the firm's state court appellate division.
- ▶ **Lani Laboda**, a Shareholder at Henderson Franklin Starnes and Holt, has been selected one of *Gulfshore*



Business Magazine's "40 under 40." The Lee County Women Lawyers' Association applauds her achievement. She was recognized as one of 40 young, successful movers and shakers in Southwest Florida and was honored at the Naples Hilton & Towers on Sept. 4.

- ▶ **Rhea F. Law**, president and CEO of Fowler White Boggs Banker P.A., has accepted the Florida Council of 100's invitation for Resident membership, as approved by Governor Jeb Bush. The Florida Council of 100 is a not-for-profit, nonpartisan, non-lobbying association for Florida's top business, education, non-elected state and governmental leaders. Ms. Law concentrates her practice in the area of acquisition, permitting, environmental representation, land use and zoning matters.



- ▶ Palm Beach County FAWL member **Jaana T. Moisio** recently joined the Boca Raton Office of Hodgson Russ LLP, as Senior Counsel. Formerly with the West Palm Beach firm of Glickman, Witters & Marell, she joins the Florida Marital and Family Law Practice Group of the firm. A certified family law mediator, Ms. Moisio is also a founding member of the Collaborative Divorce Team, Inc. She is a frequent lecturer and author of many articles. She received her B.A. from the University of Victoria, British Columbia, Canada and her J.D. from the University of Akron School of Law (Akron, Ohio). As an active member of the Executive Women of the Palm Beaches, she has been selected to co-chair its annual "Women in Leadership" Awards Luncheon scheduled for May 2004.



- ▶ At its Annual Meeting on June 25, the Manatee County Bar Association presented **Paulette R. Pace** one of two Community Service Leader Awards, given to



members who provide service to the community through participation in organizations and activities beyond the Bar and mandatory pro bono legal services.

- ▶ Hillsborough Association for Women Lawyers member **Olga Pina** has been elected as president of the Tampa Bay Women in International Trade. She practices in the Securities and Finance Practice Group and International Practice Group of Fowler White Boggs Banker P.A. in their Tampa office.



- ▶ Clearwater attorney **Donna K. Rose** received the annual Sole Practitioner Merit Award from the American Bar Association's General practice, Solo and Small Firm Section. The award recognizes lawyers who through leadership and service to the local and legal communities show outstanding dedication to the practice of law. Ms. Rose is the immediate past president of the Pinellas County FAWL Chapter.

- ▶ Dade FAWL member **Katherine Silverglate** announces she is a featured artist at the Florida Supreme Court. Her photo exhibit will be on display through the end of January 2004.

- ▶ The Lawyers for Literacy Committee of The Palm Beach County Bar Association held a spelling bee at the Governor's Club in West Palm Beach on Aug. 21. The event was held to select a team to compete in the annual Great Grown-up Spelling Bee, to be held Sept. 20, at the Boynton Beach Mall, as well as to raise the \$700 entry fee for the team. Gunster Yoakley attorney **Cynthia Spall**, Palm Beach County FAWL President, who also chairs the Lawyers for Literacy Committee and who serves on the board of directors for the Palm Beach County Literacy Coalition, reports the event exceeded the committee's most optimistic expectations, raising \$3,000. The extra \$2,300 will be donated to the Palm Beach County Literacy Coalition, which sponsors the Great Grown-up Spelling Bee. Spall says the committee's goal for next year's Lawyers for Literacy Spelling Bee will be to double the amount raised to help promote literacy in Palm Beach County.



SPELLING BEE WINNERS (from left:) Art Pumpian, WPTV's Chandra Bill, Kathleen Davis, Palm Beach County FAWL President Cynthia Spall and Steven Harris.



(from left:) NBC 5 news anchor Chandra Bill, West Palm Beach Mayor Lois Frankel and Palm Beach FAWL member, honorary moderator for the evening and Gunster attorney Cynthia Spall, chair of the Lawyers for Literacy Committee.

▶ **Alison M. Yurko**, a Board Certified Local Government Attorney at Thomas P. Callan, P.A. in Orlando, was a featured speaker at the National Business Institute's Seminar "Florida Land Use: Current Issues in Subdivision Annexation and Zoning Law." The seminar was held in Orlando on July 31 at the Radisson Plaza Hotel. On Aug. 1, she addressed the Florida Public Finance Bar in Manalapan at their annual seminar. The lecture focused on the fiscal impacts of annexation to local governments and related issues. She was also a policy committee speaker during the Florida League of Cities 77th Annual Conference on Aug. 14 at the Wyndham Palace Resort in Lake Buena Vista. She specializes in land use, zoning, public utilities law, annexation and land development matters and is a frequent writer and speaker on local government issues. ■



SEND FAWL YOUR NEWS!

Tell FAWL about your latest accomplishments.

E-MAIL NEWS TO:
fawl@fawl.org

CORRECTION:

We incorrectly stated the wrong attorney having been named among Orlando's Best Lawyers by *Orlando Magazine*. **Miranda Fitzgerald** is the Lowndes, Drosdick, Doster, Kantor & Reed partner who has received this ranking.

William E. Doster, Richard J. Fildes, Miranda Fitzgerald, Hal H. Kantor, John F. Lowndes, Jon C. Yergler and Terry C. Young, partners with Lowndes, Drosdick, Doster, Kantor & Reed, have been named among Orlando's Best Lawyers by *Orlando Magazine*.

▶ CHAPTER HAPPENINGS, from Page 13

The annual art auction will be held on Friday, Feb. 13 at the Brokaw McDougall House. This event is one of the primary fundraiser's for the association's law student scholarship.

TREASURE COAST ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN LAWYERS

Members of the **Treasure Coast Association for Women Lawyers** (TCAWL) held its second annual Law Day program at the PACE Center for

Girls, Inc., in Fort Pierce on May 2, 2003. Members of TCRAWL, joined by representatives from Florida Legal Services for the 19th Circuit, participated in class discussions on school, careers and overcoming obstacles to goals. The classes were followed by a barbeque for the students of the PACE Center for Girls, Inc, sponsored by TCRAWL and Florida Rural Legal Services. Law Day is the annual outreach by the legal community to provide programs and awareness of their true role and involvement in our society. ■



TREASURE COAST LAW DAY: Patricia Baldwin, President of TCRAWL, is joined by Portia Scott and Pamela Booker of TCRAWL, Donna Graf of Florida Rural Legal Services, Lisa VonSeelen, Executive Director of PACE Center for Girls, and students from the PACE Center for Girls, Fort Pierce, Florida, in recognition of Law Day 2003.

▶ PUMPS, from Page 3

input from all corners of the state on what should be FAWL's legislative positions.

Another FAWL initiative for the year is spearheaded by **Sherri Johnson** and **Ellen Malasky**, Chair and Vice Chair, respectively, of the Judicial Selection Committee. FAWL is trying to line up liaisons across the state to monitor the Judicial Nominating Committees in their areas. The aim of the Judicial Selection Committee is to provide information about openings on both the JNCs and on the bench, and to sit in on JNC interviews themselves as a watchdog against gender bias in the selection process.

If you are interested in serving on either the Legislative or the Judicial Selection Committees, please contact the FAWL office so that our excellent Executive Director can put you in touch with the appropriate committee chairs.

So, if FAWL makes a mistake along the way with some of these changes and initiatives, we hope our members will be patient with us. When we emerge from the changes, we can expect that FAWL members will have much to be proud of. ■

Hon. Mattie Belle Davis Memorial Luncheon

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 2004

12:30 p.m. • Miami Hyatt Regency Hotel
In conjunction with The Florida Bar's Midyear Meeting

All Florida attorneys are invited to join in a celebration of the life and achievements of the Honorable Mattie Belle Davis at a memorial luncheon jointly sponsored



by the Florida Association for Women Lawyers and its Miami-

Dade Chapter. Judge Davis was an inspiration to many Florida attorneys and a founding member of FAWL, as well as the Association's historian throughout her life.

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