



## SCOOP

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NNWLA  
WWW.NNWLA.COM

Volume 18, Issue 12  
December 2015

### Please Join NNWLA for our Annual Holiday Party on December 15th

Please join us on Tuesday evening, December 15th, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. for the annual NNWLA Holiday Party. The party will be held at the home of the Honorable Lynne Simons. Please come celebrate the holidays and the upcoming New Year with us as we welcome the 2016 NNWLA Board of Directors.

Please RSVP to [nnwla.rsvp@gmail.com](mailto:nnwla.rsvp@gmail.com) by December 8th. After we receive your RSVP, we will respond with the address of the party. We look forward to seeing you there and celebrating the holidays with you!

### Please Join NNWLA for our Annual Holiday Shopping Event with Veterans Memorial Schoolchildren on December 19th

On the morning of Saturday, December 19th, at 8 a.m. NNWLA will be hosting its annual Holiday Shopping Event at the J.C. Penney store in Meadowood Mall. The event is a wonderful opportunity to provide underprivileged children, from Veterans Memorial School, warm clothes and presents for the holidays.

We are looking for volunteers to shop with the children and for donations to pay for the gifts. If you would like to volunteer to be a shopper, please e-mail us at [nnwla.rsvp@gmail.com](mailto:nnwla.rsvp@gmail.com). If you would like to donate to this event, please visit our website ([www.nnwla.com](http://www.nnwla.com)) on the "events" page. You can also donate via check by sending it to Anjali Webster, c/o Dickinson Wright, 100 W. Liberty St., Ste. 940, Reno, NV 89501. Please include a notation that it is for the shopping event.

For each \$100.00 we collect, we can sponsor shopping with one underprivileged child. As a thank you we will publish a list of our volunteers and donors in the January Newsletter. The donors will be published in the following categories: Gold (\$200 and above); Silver (\$100- \$199); and Bronze (\$1- \$99). Any amount, no matter how small, is greatly appreciated and will ensure that more children can participate.

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#### Stay Connected...

Please stay connected with NNWLA through our website ([www.nnwla.com](http://www.nnwla.com)) and our Facebook page.

#### Upcoming Events:

**December 15th:** Annual Holiday Party at 5:30 p.m. at Judge Simons' House.

**December 19th:** Annual Veterans Memorial Holiday Shopping Event at 8 a.m. at J.C. Penney in Meadowood Mall.

**January 19th:** Self Defense Class at 5:30 p.m. at FAST Nevada.





## A Word From Our President



By Kimberly L.  
Goodnight

In a recent conversation with one of NNWLA's past presidents, we noted that the end of an NNWLA presidency is "bittersweet." Being on the NNWLA Board is both rewarding and exhausting. As a board member, you have the opportunity to make new friends and meet extraordinary members of the legal community but you work hard to provide meaningful monthly programming.

As I reflect over the past year, I'm extremely proud of what my board has accomplished. I want to thank all of my board and committee members for all of their hard work. In January, we hosted a panel of prominent female general counsels—Mary Dugan (University of Nevada, Reno); Kathleen Fellows (Hard Rock Hotels); Edie Hofmeister (Tahoe Resources, Inc.); and Debra Robinson (Monarch Casinos). In February, Assistant Bar Counsel R. Kait Flocchini spoke to us about "What Every Lawyer Needs to Know About Attorney Discipline and How to Avoid It." In March, we honored Judge Deborah Schumacher as the 2015 Outstanding Woman Lawyer. In April, we held a social hour at The Depot. In May, Assistant United States Attorney Carla B. Higginbotham gave us an update on sex trafficking in Nevada. In June, Theresa Ristenpart spoke to us about international law and practicing in foreign countries. In July, we had our annual hike and happy hour. In September, Kimberly Surratt spoke to us about parenting law and assisted reproductive technology. In Oc-

tober, we had a question and answer session with the inaugural judges of the Nevada Court of Appeals—Chief Judge Michael Gibbons, Judge Abbi Silver, and Judge Jerome Tao. Lastly, in November, Alicia Johnson and Jennifer Mahe gave us a wonderful primer on estate planning.

However, the year is not over! On December 19th, we will have our annual shopping event with the students of Veterans Memorial Elementary School. At this event, we shop with students and buy them warm clothes for winter. Every year our membership has proven to be extremely generous with their donations and time. We hope to make this year just as successful and are looking for both monetary donations and volunteers to shop. If you've shopped with one of these students, you know how grateful he or she is for the new clothes. You also know how great it feels to leave this event knowing that you just made a kid's holiday season extra special. I hope all of you are able to participate in this event in some capacity.

Finally, I invite you to join NNWLA for our annual holiday party on December 15th at Judge Lynne Simons' house. This party is a great place to mingle with members of the legal community. We will also be welcoming the incoming 2016 NNWLA Board. I hope to see you at one of these events. I end my presidency with the utmost respect for this organization and look forward to the great things that President-Elect Lauren Berkich has planned for 2016.

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## Join the 2016 NNWLA Board

The NNWLA Board is seeking volunteers for the Newsletter Committee for 2016. The members of the Newsletter Committee are expected to contribute one to two articles or interviews each year for the NNWLA Newsletter. The Committee is ideal for individuals who want to volunteer and participate, but who cannot make the time commitment required for a regular Board position.

If you are interested in joining the Newsletter Committee in 2016, please contact Lauren Berkich and Laury Macauley at [LBerkich@woodburnandwedge.com](mailto:LBerkich@woodburnandwedge.com) and [laury@macauleylawgroup.com](mailto:laury@macauleylawgroup.com).





## **The Holiday Shopping Event from the Volunteer's Perspective**

**By Marilee Breternitz**

As many of you know, volunteering at the Holiday Shopping Event is a heartwarming experience. You are paired up with a child and given \$100.00 (from the donations made for the event) to buy the child warm winter clothes and maybe a toy or other trinket. For those of you who have not been, it is well worth giving up part of your Saturday morning.

My first year I half expected the children to focus on toys, but I was completely wrong. The children are in desperate need of warm clothes that fit them and that is all they want. I am so impressed with the children every time I have shopped with them. The children are also incredibly generous. Almost every year I have had children ask if we can use some of their money to buy their little brother or little sister winter shoes, a jacket, or a toy. I have heard similar stories from other volunteers. The winter clothes we buy are in many cases the only winter clothes these children will get, yet the children are willing to give up some of their own money to make sure their younger siblings get something special. It melts your heart to see how generous and caring the children are.

The children (and parents) are extremely grateful for what we do for them. I cannot count the number of "thank yous" and hugs I received from the children and parents each year. If you can join us to volunteer on December 19th at 8 a.m. you will not be disappointed.

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## **Save the Date for Our January 19th Event**

Please help us kick off 2016 the right way and join us for our first event of the new year. On January 19th at 5:30 p.m., NNWLA will be hosting a self defense class at FAST Nevada, 1351 Corporate Blvd. Reno, NV 89502. You are encouraged to bring your teenaged daughters and/or female friends with you to the event. The class will be taught by two Reno Police Department Officers and self defense experts, Jerry Hallert and Byron Cragg.

The cost will be \$15.00 per person, and all proceeds will be donated to a local shelter for battered women. To RSVP for the event please e-mail [nnwla.rsvp@gmail.com](mailto:nnwla.rsvp@gmail.com).

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## **2016 Dues Notice**

It is that time of the year again— time to pay your NNWLA dues. Dues will remain the same as last year. The dues for attorneys practicing for fewer than two years, government attorneys, and retired attorneys are \$50.00 per year. For attorneys who have been practicing more than two years in Nevada the dues are \$75.00. Sustaining member dues will be \$125.00. The sustaining members are thanked for their generous contributions in the January Newsletter each year.

A 2016 Membership Form is attached as page 5 of this Newsletter. Please note the second to last question on the form is new this year. We have traditionally held our events on the third Tuesday of every month. We are considering changing our event dates to allow more people to attend. Please indicate what days of the week (and weeks of the month) are best for you for our events. Please also indicate whether your choice is different for luncheons and dinner events.



## **November 2, 2015 NNWLA Board Minutes**

1. Present: Kimberly Goodnight, Laury Macauley, Sally Bassett, Jennifer Gustafson, Katie Hoffman, Diana Zuccarini.
2. Bank Balance: \$5,241.84.
3. Discussion of Upcoming Events: November 17th Estate Planning lunch event at SoDo (Jennifer Mahe and Alicia Johnson to speak); December 15th Holiday Party at Home of Judge Simons; December 19th Veterans Elementary Charity Shopping; January 19th Self-Defense Class event.
4. Discussion of possible future CLE regarding history of courts.
5. Next Newsletter deadline: 11/24/15.
6. Next Board Meeting: 12/01/15.

## 2016 Northern Nevada Women Lawyers Association Membership Registration

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone (work): \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(Personal information will not be published or provided to third parties)

State(s) and Years (s) admitted to practice:  
\_\_\_\_\_ Nevada \_\_\_\_\_ Others: \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership Type/Annual Dues:

\_\_\_\_\_ Fewer than two years of practice in Nevada - \$50.00  
\_\_\_\_\_ Government attorneys (regardless of years of practice) - \$50.00  
\_\_\_\_\_ Retired attorneys (regardless of years of practice) - \$50.00  
\_\_\_\_\_ More than two years of practice in Nevada - \$75.00  
\_\_\_\_\_ Sustaining member - \$125.00

Please make checks payable to "Northern Nevada Women Lawyers Association" or NNWLA and remit to:

**Marilee Breternitz**  
**c/o Robertson, Johnson, Miller & Williamson**  
**50 W. Liberty St., Ste. 600**  
**Reno, NV 89501**

More information about you (check all that apply): My practice areas include:

_____ Solo practitioner	_____
_____ Fewer than 5 attorneys in firm	_____
_____ 5-10 attorneys in firm	_____
_____ More than 10 attorneys in firm	_____
_____ Contract Attorney	_____
_____ Employed by Government	_____
_____ Agency/Court	_____
_____ Judicial Law Clerk	_____
_____ Not currently practicing	_____
_____ Seeking employment	_____

### What subjects/activities would you like to see as topics for the monthly lunch meetings?

_____ political/legislative issues	_____ mentoring
_____ family law issues	_____ stress management
_____ career options	_____ CLE credit
_____ local legal community issues	_____ issues particular to women practicing law
_____ other (please specify) _____	

Do you have any suggestions as to activities and/or events that you would like NNWLA to sponsor or participate in during 2016? \_\_\_\_\_

If our meetings were moved from the third Tuesday of the month, what day(s) each month would be best for you (please also specify days for luncheon and dinner events if they differ)? \_\_\_\_\_

Other comments: \_\_\_\_\_



Please Join the NNWLA  
*For our Annual Holiday Party*

At the home of the  
Honorable Lynne Simons

Tuesday, December 15<sup>th</sup>  
5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

*Come celebrate the holidays and  
new year as we welcome the  
2016 NNWLA Board of Directors*

Please RSVP to  
[nnwla.rsvp@gmail.com](mailto:nnwla.rsvp@gmail.com) by December 8<sup>th</sup>  
Directions will be provided to  
respondents via email





*Please Join*

## Northern Nevada Women Lawyers Association

**As We Partner With Veterans Memorial Elementary School**

**For Our Annual**

# Holiday Shopping Event!

**December 19<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m., J.C. Penney Store in the Meadowood Mall**

*Please consider brightening a child's holiday by volunteering to shop with a student or by making a donation to help these children pay for their gifts*

Donations may be made at [NNWLA.com](http://NNWLA.com) or by sending a check to Anjali Webster, c/o Dickinson Wright, 100 W. Liberty St., ste. 940, Reno, NV 89501. Please include a notation that the check is for the holiday shopping event.

If you would like to volunteer to help one of the students shop, please email [nnwla.rsvp@gmail.com](mailto:nnwla.rsvp@gmail.com).

All volunteers and donations will be acknowledged in the NNWLA January Newsletter, thank you!



[www.NNWLA.com](http://www.NNWLA.com)



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