

Women Lawyers Association of Michigan



2012 Annual Meeting Reports

Officers

Angela Sherigan - President
Julie Wagner - President-Elect
Marla Linderman - Vice President
Michele Rivas - Treasurer
Kristen Pursley - Secretary
Lysa Postula-Stein - Immediate Past-President

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Regional Representatives

Ann Horowitz
Heather Atnip
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Grand Rapids, Michigan

Women Lawyers Association of Michigan



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Hon. Angela Sherigan

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Immediate Past President
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Association Manager
Theresa Lark

WLAM ANNUAL REPORT – 2011-2012

April 2012

PRESIDENT’S REPORT –

The 2011-2012 year was very active year for the Women Lawyers Association of Michigan. Our organization continues to grow and the state board continues to strengthen and become more visible.

It was my pleasure to serve WLAM as president this year, and I am so pleased at WLAM’s commitment to diversity. The year was kicked off with the 2011 annual meeting and program being held on Tribal land. The program incorporated many cultural aspects of Native Americans. I was so pleased at WLAM’s openness to hosting an event like this, and honored to be able to share some of my culture and traditions with you.

During the last year, WLAM welcomed a new association management company, Governmental Consultant Services Inc., out of Lansing Michigan, and it has been a pleasure to work with Theresa Lark, our association manager. The switch of association management companies has saved WLAM thousands of dollars.

The organization has increased its reaching out to and partnering with other organizations in support of women. The program committee was very busy this year with bringing the production of *Miss Representation* to Michigan. WLAM brought the first showing of the documentary to Michigan, which focuses on the media’s representation of women in positions of power and influence, to Royal Oak, in conjunction with the Women’s Center, and then partnered with the University of Michigan’s Department of Women’s Studies in Ann Arbor. The United States is only 90th in the world for women in national legislatures. The film showed that we live in a society where the media a strong force in shaping the cultural norms, and the collective message, to both young men and women, that value and power of women lies in her youth, beauty, and sexuality, and not in her capacity as a leader. Both events were hugely successful and attracted diverse crowds. Thank you to Kristen Pursley and Suzanne Sukkar for all their hard work on this project.

The committees saw a lot of fresh faces this year, and the Candidate Rating and Endorsement committee has been working on preparations for this year’s upcoming elections.

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The Regions have continued to have a strong membership and were very active, continuing to provide support, networking, speaking events, and participating in charitable and community service events at the local levels. WLAM will soon be adding another region, yet to be named, that will cover the northern part of Michigan.

I am confident that as WLAM moves forward into the next year, and beyond, it will continue to grow, and work to secure the rights of women in society, by meeting our mission to advance the interest of women members of the legal profession, to promote improvements in the administration of justice, and to promote equality and social justice for all people.

Thank you to the state board, and all of the regions for a great year.

Respectfully submitted,

Hon. Angela Sherigan
2011-2012 President, Women Lawyers Association of Michigan

TREASURER'S REPORT – Submitted by Michele A. Rivas

WLAM's finances continued its forward momentum from last year with significant increases in revenue generated from our partnering efforts and the showing of the Miss Representation documentary.

2011 Statement of Operations

Although the 2011 Statement of Operations shows a deficit of \$3,217.85, this deficit stems primarily from the budget passed for 2011 which anticipated revenue greater than amounts actually obtained. This shortfall was likely due to Michigan's economy in 2011, which resulted in fewer new and renewed memberships and lower than anticipated attendance at the 2011 annual meeting. The following items had a significant impact on the 2011 budget:

1. **Dues Revenue.** The 2011 budget presumed an increase in dues revenue of \$12,305 (2011 budgeted dues of \$51,180 – 2010 budgeted dues of \$38,875). **WLAM made a modest increase of \$560 in actual dues revenue for 2011** (\$45,490 2011 actual dues revenue - \$44,930 2010 actual dues revenue).
2. **Annual Meeting Revenue.** The 2011 budget presumed the annual meeting would generate \$3,285 in net revenue (\$9,225 projected income - \$5,940 projected expense). Although the 2011 annual meeting did not meet its budgeted net revenue, **WLAM's 2011 Annual Meeting generated \$2,005.79 in net revenue.**

Actual Gross Income: \$5,550.00 (\$9,225 budgeted gross income)

Actual Gross Expense: \$3,544.21 (\$5,950 budgeted gross expense)

Actual Net Revenue: \$2,005.79 (\$3,285 budgeted net revenue)

3. **Dues Paid to Regions.** The 2011 budget estimated dues to regions in the amount of \$12,795. Actual dues paid to regions in 2011 totaled \$15,335 (\$2,540 in excess of the budget). This excess amount of dues paid to regions is primarily due to 2010 dues payments paid in 2011 in the amount of \$5,387.50.
4. **Partnering Programs.** **Our partnering programs received an additional \$3,010.39 in net revenue from our partnering efforts not anticipated in the 2011 budget.**
5. **State-Sponsored Events.** **The 2011 showing of Miss Representation in Royal Oak, Michigan, generated an additional \$2,348.61 in net revenue not anticipated in the 2011 budget.**

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2012 Budget

In light of the Michigan's still recovering economy, the following actions were made in the approved 2012 budget: (i) dues revenue budget expectations were lowered for 2012; (ii) budgeted net revenue from the 2012 annual meeting was lowered; and (iii) a new Association Manager, GCSI, was hired, and certain administrative responsibilities were absorbed by the WLAM State Board, **resulting in a reduction of overall association management expenses of \$8,100.**

By lowering WLAM's association management expenses, taking on additional responsibilities, and increasing our commitment to our partnering programs, WLAM is able to provide the following benefits in the 2012 budget:

- An additional state-wide sponsored event in 2012;
- Special project funding to regions and student chapters; and
- Budgeted upgrades for our communications and technology (including the WLAM website).

Procedural Improvements

Key procedural changes implemented last year were further streamlined in 2011. WLAM's financial reports include a monthly statement of operations that compares actual year to date finances with our expected budget as of that date so we can quickly ascertain if we are on target with the annual budget. That report was modified to more accurately record membership dues and how they are allocated within our organization. Additional improvements made this year include: (1) implementation of a procedure requiring the use of an event summary that details revenue and expenses against budgeted amounts to ensure events remain within budget, pledged sponsorships are received, and approved donations are timely made; (2) further organization and consolidation of budget line items to improve efficiency; and (3) procurement of a WLAM debit card in order to facilitate faster disbursement of approved expenditures and to reserve event facilities without advanced cash outlays.

Thank you

I would like to thank all the regional and student chapter treasurers for their hard work this year: Lyndsay Ott (Macomb), Kris Arnett (Mid-Michigan), Melissa Graves (Oakland/WBA), Jennifer LaMay (Great Lakes Bay), Bonnie Shaw (Washtenaw), Tenecia Vanzant (Wayne), Kelly Clum-Matthysse (Western), Christine Constantino (Cooley Auburn Hills), Sara Araya (Cooley Lansing), and Melissa Dietz (Cooley Grand Rapids). I would also like to thank Marla Linderman, former State Treasurer and current Vice-President, for streamlining our financial reports in 2010 and providing support in 2011 whenever requested.

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WLAM STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS - January through December 2011

Income

640 · Dues

640.1 · Sustaining	9,000.00
640.10 · Associate Member	700.00
640.2 · 5 +	26,550.00
640.3 · 1 - 5 years	5,175.00
640.4 · Student	2,975.00
640.5 · Admittee	175.00
640.6 · Retired	400.00
640.7 · Extra Region	475.00
640.8 · New (Incentive)	.00
640.9 · Paralegal	40.00
<u>Total 640 · Dues</u>	<u>45,490.00</u>

660 · Non-dues Revenue

660.1 Partnering Programs	3,000.00
<u>660 · Non-dues Revenue - Other</u>	<u>10.39</u>
<u>Total 660 Non-Dues Revenue</u>	<u>3,010.39</u>

680 · Other Income

680.3 · Justice Kelly Sponsorship	850.00
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690 · Annual Meeting Income

690.1 · Members	2,405.00
690.2 · Non-Members	375.00
690.3 · Sponsorship	2,450.00
690.4 · Student	140.00
<u>690.5 · Luncheon Only</u>	<u>180.00</u>
<u>Total 690 · Annual Meeting Income</u>	<u>5,550.00</u>

691 · Interest Income	0.00
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<u>692 · 2011 Miss Representation Income</u>	<u>4,007.00</u>
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<u>Total Income</u>	<u>58,907.39</u>
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Expense

700 · Member Services Expenses

710 · Board

710.1 · Meetings	0.00
<u>710.2 · Conference Calls</u>	<u>164.98</u>
<u>Total 710 · Board</u>	<u>164.98</u>

720 · Committee Expenses

<u>720.2 · Membership Committee</u>	<u>199.37</u>
<u>Total 720 · Committee Expenses</u>	<u>199.37</u>

730 · Licenses & Fees

<u>730.1 · Non-profit Permit - State fee</u>	<u>20.00</u>
<u>Total 730 · Licenses & Fees</u>	<u>20.00</u>

740 · Regions

<u>740.1 · Dues to regions</u>	<u>15,335.00</u>
<u>Total 740 · Regions</u>	<u>15,335.00</u>

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750 · Marketing	
750.3 · Constant Contact	393.00
750.6 · Orbro	75.00
<u>Total 750 · Marketing</u>	<u>468.00</u>
Total 700 · Member Services Expenses	16,187.35

790 · Annual Meeting Expense	
790.1 · Facility	2,716.18
790.2 · Awards	
790.2.1 · President Gift	37.17
790.2 Awards - Other	109.30
Total 790.2 · Awards	146.47
790.4 · Committee	0.00
790.5 · Supplies	117.08
790.6 · Postage	14.08
790.8 · Give Aways/Speaker Gifts	0.00
790.9 · Marketing	.40
790.10 Speakers	550.00
<u>790 · Annual Meeting Expense - Other</u>	<u>91.50</u>
Total 790 · Annual Meeting Expense	3,544.21

800 · Management & General Expenses	
810 · Management Contract AMR	
810.3 Management Company RFP	292.40
<u>810 · Management Contract AMR</u>	<u>36,000.00</u>
Total 810 · Management Contract AMR	36,292.40

815 · Staff Travel	
815.1 · Mileage	144.33
<u>815.2 · Other</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Total 815 · Staff Travel	144.33

820 · Bank Fees	
<u>820.1 · Merchant Services</u>	<u>806.52</u>
Total 820 · Bank Fees	806.52

830 · Web	
830.2 · Web Hosting Fee	179.40
<u>830.5 · Domain Renewal Fee</u>	<u>35.00</u>
Total 830 · Web	214.40

840 · Copying	31.29
850 · Postage	85.39
860 · Phone	768.82

890 · Professional Dues	
<u>890.1 · NCWBA</u>	<u>150.00</u>
Total 890 · Professional Dues	150.00

<u>897 · Other – Justice Kelly Sponsorship</u>	<u>850.00</u>
Total 800 · Management & Gen. Expense	39,549.28

900 · D & O Insurance	835.00
910 · Tax Services	901.00
<u>911 · 2011 Miss Representation Expense</u>	<u>1,108.40</u>
Total Expense	62,125.24

Net Income	-3,217.85
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Women Lawyers Association of Michigan

REGIONAL REPORTS:

GREAT LAKES BAY –

The Great Lakes Bay Region continued to grow this year with the addition of new members after each of our many events!

The year started off with our 1st Annual Summer Wine Down. The casual event was a great way to get the year underway. New members met our group and old members caught up after the summer hiatus.

The 2nd event of the year was very well attended, thanks to our well-accredited speaker, Elizabeth Jolliffe. Ms. Jolliffe spoke about the importance of confidence in a historically male dominated profession. Her presentation prompted great brainstorming and discussion among members and brought some new ideas and helpful advice to the table.

In December, we co-hosted a holiday event with the Legal Assistant Professionals Group. The event consisted of cocktails and dinner at Bay Valley Resort. Each attendee was asked to bring a donation for Underground Railroad, a local women's shelter. The strong turnout resulted in a festive time and Underground Railroad received many much needed items.

Relaxation was the theme for our spring event, a Spa Night with the Saginaw Women's Auxiliary. Members from both groups enjoyed food and refreshments while being pampered with massages, manicures and pedicures at a local Saginaw spa.

The year finished with a bang at our Annual Meeting. The luncheon speaker, Barabara McQuade, U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Michigan, spoke on a variety of topics, and kept it casual by answering questions throughout her presentation. Our new board for the 2012-2013 was elected and has already started brainstorming some fabulous events for the upcoming year!

MID-MICHIGAN –

Submitted by Kristin Arnett, Regional Representative

The Mid-Michigan Region enjoyed a very successful year of networking and supporting our members in the area.

- 1. Membership Mixers.** The Region hosted monthly membership "mixers" at various locations in and around Lansing, East Lansing, Haslett and Okemos. These were well attended and allowed members an opportunity to get to know one another and network with other legal professionals in the community. The February mixer was a luncheon at Troppos in Lansing, during which Vincent Mastrovito spoke about investing strategies specific to legal professionals; this event was very well attended.
- 2. Annual Meeting.** We are planning our Annual meeting for May 17, 2012 at the Kellogg Center. We are pleased that our featured speaker will be Maura Corrigan who was appointed by Governor Rick Snyder as the director of the Michigan Department of Human

Women Lawyers Association of Michigan

Services on January 6, 2011. At the meeting our proposed slate of officers will be voted upon. The proposed officers are as follows:

Torree Breen, incoming President
Tish Vincent, incoming Vice President
Lori Herr, Treasurer and Regional Director
Lindsay Dangl, Secretary

- 3. Community Service.** WLAM's Mid-Michigan Region was a proud supporter of new inductee Justice Marilyn Kelly, former WLAM President, into the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame in October of this past year. The Mid-Michigan Region also helped in sponsoring the Women's Center event "In Her Cups" which helps provides much needed funding for the Women's Center. As a region, we have been much more active with the student chapter here at Cooley in Lansing, which we hope continues.
- 4. Annual Stell Scholarship Award and Reception.** On October 13 the region hosted the Annual Stell Scholarship Reception, held at Walnut Hills Golf Club in East Lansing where we awarded a \$1000 scholarship to Vivian Chang, a law student at the University of Michigan Law School. We also honored attorney Lori Pourzan for her leadership and work in promoting equality and social justice in Mid-Michigan. We had approximately 50 attendees at the reception.
- 5. Newsletter.** The region continues its newsletter, which includes a President's column, Student News, Member Notes, and various other sections intended to update our membership as to the Mid-Michigan Region's and the State's activities.
- 6. New Members.** The region welcomed 3 new members into its ranks since fall to bring our membership to 40.

WASHTENAW –

As president of the Washtenaw Region this past year, Rosemary Frenza set a goal to address the needs of all of the members, from those who were very experienced to the many who were new and seeking jobs. Rosemary and the local board hosted events that would attract those experienced members, as well as new members, and encouraged interaction between them. This goal was accomplished through the hosting of many non-traditional events in the Ann Arbor area, like a wine-tasting fund raiser and a yoga event.

The Washtenaw Region also worked diligently at maintaining a strong membership at the local level and continued to work to bring in new members. The upcoming board will be sworn in at the Washtenaw Region's Annual Luncheon on May 16, 2012. The incoming board includes: President, Elizabeth Kitchen-Troop; Vice President, Bonnie R. Shaw; Treasurer, Katherine M. Sharkey; Secretary, Jennifer L. Lawrence; Regional Representative, Anna M. Frushour; and Membership Chair, Dianna Collins.

We say good bye and thank you to this year's board, who had a very busy year promoting women in the legal community. Here's a highlight of what they accomplished:

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The Washtenaw Region kicked off the year by hosting a "Social Skills Event" on May 26, 2011. This event was sponsored with the Young Lawyers Section of the State Bar. It was held at Sticks in Ypsilanti and members came out, socialized and learned how to play pool.

On June 23, 2011, the annual Judges vs. Lawyers softball game was held at Allmendinger Park in Ann Arbor. Despite the rain, it was a great event!

The 2nd Annual Summer Party was held on July 30, 2011, at member Heidi Salter-Ferris' home on Ford Lake in Ypsilanti. This was a relaxing and fun event to kick off the summer. Members attended and brought a dish to pass.

Member Elizabeth Jolliffe hosted a WLAM tailgate party at her home before the UofM football game on September 17, 2011. Go Blue!

The Washtenaw Region participated in a Women's Exchange of Washtenaw Time Management event held at the Eagle Crest in Ypsilanti in September 2011. The program was called "How to Get Stuff Done." One of the featured speakers was WLAM member Susan Brown from Chelsea.

The Washtenaw Region hosted a luncheon during Bias-Awareness Week on October 18, 2011. A panel discussion entitled, "The Schools to Prison Pipeline," was moderated by a local judge and had a very impressive speaker line-up. This event boasted 50 attendees!

On November 10, 2011, WLAM Washtenaw co-sponsored a wine tasting event at Zingerman's Roadhouse in Ann Arbor. This wine tasting featured wine and food pairings. A portion of the proceeds from the wine purchased from the event went to benefit Safehouse, a local shelter for victims of domestic violence.

The Washtenaw Region hosted its annual holiday party on December 14, 2011, at the home of Nora Wright. The party included the presentation of the Mary Foster Award which is given annually to a local member in recognition of her leadership, talent and significant contribution to women attorneys and women in general. This year the award was given to Kim Winokur.

To kick off the New Year, the board members of the Washtenaw Region led a panel discussion on January 30, 2012, at the University of Michigan. Board members discussed our experiences in law school and in our respective fields. The attendees were members of the Delta Gamma Phi Sorority, University of Michigan's undergraduate law sorority.

When everyone was suffering from the blues in February, the Washtenaw Region hosted a stress relieving yoga event on February 18, 2012. Members came and participated in an hour long session of yoga. The event was hosted by member Sally Rutzky.

On February 23, 2012, the Washtenaw Region hosted a panel discussion focusing on a solo/small firms. The solo/small firm event was a panel that combined experienced WLAM members and non-attorney experts, and provided insight on how to start and maintain a solo or small firm practice.

Women Lawyers Association of Michigan

Then on March 9, 2012, members attended a happy hour at Bar Louie and mingled with law students. This was a Law Student Mentoring Event and it was well attended.

Jocelyn Benson spoke at a joint dinner hosted by the Washtenaw Region and the Washtenaw County Bar Association on March 15, 2012.

Throughout the year, the Washtenaw Region continued its series of Mom-in-Law lunch discussions, where members meet up to talk about the challenges and opportunities involved with being a lawyer and a mom. The next luncheon is set for May 4, 2012.

On May 16, 2012, the Washtenaw Region will host its Annual Luncheon at Cottage Inn in Ann Arbor. The upcoming board members will be sworn in and it promises to be an exciting year!

WAYNE –

Submitted by Melissa Perkins, Wayne Regional Representative

The Wayne Region announced its “Lead to Succeed” series at its annual meeting held in May 2011. The region included this theme in each of its events throughout the 2011-2012 year.

Events:

1. Garden Party: This annual event was held in September at the home of the Honorable Patricia Fresard. Despite uncooperative weather there was a good turnout and members enjoyed good food and good company.
2. Lead to Succeed Leadership Skills Series: The Lead to Succeed Series was kicked off by a lunch and learn held in October which concentrated on helping members find their strengths. DTE Energy Manager James B. Fischer led a discussion about the book Strengths Finder 2.0. The event was hosted by DTE Energy.

The series continued with the following additional programs:

- In January Clark Hill sponsored and hosted a lunch and learn event focused on self-promotion. Members were provided lunch and participated in a discussion lead by WLAM member Elizabeth Jolliffe. Members were given tips on ways to promote themselves in various situations (i.e. within their firm, amongst their peers and potential clients).
 - In April Bodman PLC sponsored and hosted a lunch and learn event focused on effective communication. Members were provided lunch and Kary Moss, Executive Director of the ACLU spoke to members on how to effectively communicate.
3. Mentor Jet: The National Association of Women Judges, WLAM-Wayne Region and the Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association held two mentor jet events in the fall. One event took place at Wayne State University and the other at the University of Detroit Law

Women Lawyers Association of Michigan

- School. Various types of legal professionals agreed to mentor law students about legal careers in a “jet-like” setting. The mentors were seated at a table as second and third year law students moved among them for five minute mentoring sessions, similar to a speed dating event.
4. Moms in Law Lunch Series: The region held lunch and learn events focusing on issues relevant to our members who are also parents or are thinking about becoming parents.
 5. Holiday Party: The region’s annual holiday party took place in December at the Detroit Beer Company. Members enjoyed good food and good company. At this event the region also collected donations for the Detroit Area Diaper Bank.
 6. Winter Wine Down: This yearly event took place in March at the Fountain Bistro in downtown Detroit. Members enjoyed gourmet appetizers, drinks and good company.
 7. Joint Mixer: The region also hosted a joint mixer with the Oakland and Macomb regions at Leon & Lulu in Clawson Michigan. This event was free and appetizers were provided.
 8. Community Service: The region has also provided information to its members regarding community service opportunities. We have done this by organizing a team for the Koman Race for the Cure and by co-sponsoring a hands on community service event in the City of Detroit. The community service project is a tree planting day which will take place on May 12th and is co-sponsored by multiple bar associations. This initiative is a follow up to the combined bars’ annual diversity celebration and will be completed under the supervision of The Greening of Detroit and its partner for this event, the USDA/USFS Great Lakes Restoration Initiative.

The Wayne Region has enjoyed a successful year thanks to our dedicated board, committee, sustaining and new members. We thank all of those who helped make this year such a success. We hope to continue to expand our region and encourage additional members to get involved for the 2012-2013 year.



Linsey Aten, *President*
Linda Jo Carron, *Vice President*
Kelly Clum-Matthysse, *Treasurer*
Kimberly Large, *Secretary*
Kelly Brushaber, *Regional Representative*

Women Lawyers Association of Michigan
Western Region

Board Members:

Jeannine Bolhouse Christina McDonald
Emily Green Kathlene Sheridan
Emma MacGuidwin Claire Whitman
Nikole Canute, *Immediate Past President*

WLAM WESTERN REGION REPORT

2012 Annual Report
Submitted: April 20, 2012
Kelly Brushaber

1. 2011 Membership Luncheons

- a. In September, 25 Western Region members enjoyed a social luncheon sponsored by Cooley Law School – Grand Rapids. Committee chairs described the WLAM committees, goals for the year, and upcoming events and will encourage membership involvement.
- b. In October, WLAM member, Elizabeth Jolliffe from *Your Benchmark Coach*, led the luncheon discussion about creating and expanding your personal brand for 23 attendees.
- c. In November, Western's membership luncheon of 22 attendees featured a panel of women lawyers who discussed their experiences and insights regarding work/life balance.

2. 2011 Holiday Reception

In December, we hosted a holiday reception the YWCA in Grand Rapids and offered hors d'oeuvres, punch and wine to 10 judges and 32 lawyers and law students. Attendees donated \$300 in cash and \$100 worth of office supplies to Mom's Bloom, a local charity that supports women and children in our community.

3. 2012 Membership Luncheons

- a. In January, Western Region hosted a social luncheon for 16 attendees at Sundance Restaurant in Grand Rapids.
- b. In February, 17 attendees met for lunch at Sundance Restaurant in GR and were treated to an inspirational presentation from Kendra Bylsma of *Allegro Coaching*, regarding ways to promote healthy living through exercise and diet.
- c. In March, WLAM held its membership luncheon at the University Club in Grand Rapids and featured a fashion show of latest Spring trends from A.K. Rikk's. The event was a complete success with 43 attending WLAM members, law students at Cooley GR, paralegals at Davenport University, and female professionals and colleagues in the community.

4. 2012 Western Region Annual Meeting

The format of the event has changed this year in order to accommodate and celebrate the 94th Annual Meeting of the State WLAM, which is being held in Grand Rapids on April 27th. We will enjoy an hors d'oeuvre and cocktail reception while we mingle with fellow WLAM members from around the state. In a brief program, we will join with Judge Smolenski in presenting the WLAM Western Region Outstanding Member Award to Ingrid Jensen and will induct our 2012-2013 Board. In addition, thanks to Vincent B. Mastrovito of Luminous Wealth Management LLC, the generous sponsor of our reception, all WLAM members are invited to attend free of charge.

5. Service Projects / Charitable Endeavors.

a. In February, several WLAM members volunteered and participated in activities at a carnival to benefit Family Promise of Grand Rapids, a charitable nonprofit organization dedicated to helping homeless children and their families in Kent County. This event featured games, face painting, food, a silent auction of goodie gift baskets, and a cake walk for this worthwhile charitable cause.

b. Our planning for the 29th Annual Women Lawyers vs. Local Judges Charity Softball Game to be held on June 23 is underway. Proceeds will benefit the YWCA of West Central Michigan. This spring, WLAM Softball Committee has met to discuss and implement: (1) sponsorship request letters in February; committee members followed up with their designated targets, (2) team poem writing was conducted and provided to Grand Rapids Bar Association (GRBA) in mid-April; (3) ticket pricing was established and giveaways will occur in April and May; (4) local policemen have been asked to appear as cheerleaders; and (5) publicity is in the works. This year, we hope to raise more than last year's total proceeds of \$13K for the YWCA.

c. Throughout the 2011 – 2012 year, Western Region has supported many local charities and events through financial sponsorship, including the Justice Foundation of West Michigan, YWCA of West Central Michigan, the Adoptive Families Support Network, the Women and the Environment Symposium, and others.

6. Membership Directory. Regional Membership Committee compiled the contact information, areas of practice and photos of Western's members into an electronic directory, which was distributed in December 2011 and will be distributed to members once each year.

Women Lawyers Association of Michigan

WLAM FOUNDATION REPORT –

Submitted by Dawn Van Hoek, Chair, WLAM Foundation

The WLAM Foundation enjoyed another very successful year of supporting women's education, raising over \$40,000 for scholarships. The success of the Foundation is largely based on the exceptional talent of its Board of Directors, comprised in 2011-12 of Dawn Van Hoek (Chair), Paula M. Talarico (Treasurer), Sandra L. Sorini (Secretary), Lori D. Becker, Z. Kay Fitzpatrick, Nancy Glen, Catherine McClure, Markeisha Miner, Alice McCann Osburn, Meghan Kennedy Riordan, Maya Watson, and Kim Winokur.

Fundraising in 2011-12 took the forms of dues check-offs and direct donations from WLAM members (approx. \$2,600), event sponsorship (\$2,375), the Fourth Annual Culinary Challenge (\$5,725), the "Dean's List" giving campaign (approx. \$29,400), and the Kimberly M. Cahill Fund (\$2,970). Major continuing support was shown by corporations and law firms, particularly General Motors, the Albert & Doris Pitt Foundation, the Dickinson Wright Women's Network, the Garvey Family Fund and the Culinary Challenge Committee. As in prior years, a significant number of individuals also contributed to the campaign, joining the corporations, law firms and special funds in their generous support. The 2012 Dean's List of donors follows:

Summa Cum Laude (\$2,500 and above)

*Albert & Doris Pitt Foundation
Culinary Challenge Committee
Dickinson Wright Women's Network
Garvey Family Fund
General Motors*

Magna Cum Laude (\$1,000 to \$2,500)

*Barris, Sott, Denn & Driker, PLLC
Bodman, PLC
Carole Chiamp
Sue Ellen Eisenberg & Associates PC
Dykema Gossett
Vincent Mastrovito
Kerr, Russell & Weber, PLC
Schoenherr, Cahill & Warnez, P.C. ♥*

Cum Laude (\$750 to \$999)

Hon. Pamela R. Harwood

Good Citizenship (\$125 to \$749)

<i>Nina D. Abrams</i>	<i>Catherine McClure</i>
<i>Becker Legal, P.C.</i>	<i>Douglas McClure</i>
<i>Margaret Bossenbery♥</i>	<i>Markeisha J. Miner</i>
<i>Hon. Alfred Butzbaugh♥</i>	<i>Alice McCann Osburn</i>

Women Lawyers Association of Michigan

Thomas Cranmer♥
Nancy Diehl♥
Sandra Sorini Elser
Julie I. Fershtman♥
Z. Kay Fitzpatrick♥
Mary M. Fowlie♥
Hon. Carol Hackett Garagiola
Nancy Glen & Ralph
McDowell
Trish Oleksa Haas
Elizabeth Jolliffe
Hon. Marilyn J. Kelly♥
Kenneth M. Bernard, CFA
Bernard Wealth Management
Corp.
Michigan State Bar
Foundation
Barbara McQuade

Hon. Lynne A. Pierce
Linda K. Rexer♥
Hon. Michael & Meghan
Riordan
Hon. Victoria Roberts
Rebecca Simkins♥
Sinas, Dramis, Brake,
Boughton &
McIntyre, P.C.
Margaret Sind Raben
Talarico & Associates, P.C.
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♥ Donations made to the Kimberly M. Cahill Scholarship Fund

Virtually all of the money raised by the WLAM Foundation goes directly into law student scholarships or an educational endowment fund; less than ten percent of the money raised goes to administration, a very low percentage in the fund-raising world. The Foundation's web site, www.wlamfoundation.org, contains news, archives, photographs, profiles of student-awardees, and much more. Event support was handled with considerable aplomb by Barbara Kuchmanich, with the backing and in-kind contributions of Talarico & Associates PC.

Awards made to Outstanding Women Law Students this year totaled \$25,000, awarded to ten students attending Michigan's five accredited law schools. The 2012 Outstanding Women Law Students are:

General Motors Scholars:

Claudia Boonenberg, University of Detroit Mercy School of Law
Theresa D'Andrea, University of Michigan Law School
Heather Piotrowski, Wayne State University Law School
Sarah K. Warpinski, Michigan State University College of Law

Dickinson Wright Women's Network Scholar:

Donnica Marie Blackful, Thomas M. Cooley Law School

WLAM Foundation Scholars:

Linda Levette Rawls, Thomas M. Cooley Law School
Lindsay Pohlman, Michigan State University College of Law
Grace Trueman, University of Detroit Mercy School of Law
Eleanor Ung, Wayne State University Law School

Women Lawyers Association of Michigan

Kimberly M. Cahill Scholar:

Jaclyn Kelley, University of Michigan Law School

Students were selected on the basis of their demonstrated leadership and on their commitment to women's and diversity issues. Full profiles of the students appear on the Foundation's web site, www.wlamfoundation.org. The 2012 Outstanding Women Law Students were introduced at the Foundation's Annual Reception, held on March 28, 2012, at The Whitney, a landmark restaurant in Detroit. The event was well-attended by students and their families, former awardees, dignitaries, members of the Dean's List, and friends of the Foundation. Attendees were inspired by remarks from the State Bar of Michigan's 2012 President, Julie Fershtman, and from U.S. District Court Judge Victoria A. Roberts, who received the Foundation's Legacy Award. Generous sponsors of the reception were Kenneth M. Bernard, CFA, Bernard Wealth Management Corp., Nancy Glen & Ralph McDowell, Hon. Michael & Meghan Riordan, Talarico & Associates, PC., and Vincent Mastrovito. The WLAM Foundation would like to especially thank Dr. David Bauer and WLAMF Trustee, Z. Kay Fitzpatrick, for providing us with live entertainment at the reception.

Many thanks to all for the support shown during the year!