

# Connections

## Linking

State, Local, and Special Purpose Bar Associations

### links to help you

#### Practice Management Resource Center Helpline

<http://www.michbar.org/pmrc/helpline.cfm>

#### State Bar Criminal Issues Initiative

<http://www.michbar.org/programs/criminalissues.cfm>

#### Lawyers and Judges Assistance

#### Web cast seminar "Stress Management for Lawyers"

<http://www.michbar.org/pmrc/seminars/stress1/frame.html>

#### Five free SBM electronic subscriptions

<http://www.michbar.org/publications/signup.cfm>

Connections is an electronic newsletter published three times a year by the State Bar of Michigan and distributed without charge to recognized Michigan local and special bar associations and the State Bar Board of Commissioners.

Announcements, articles, and pictures for Connections are highly encouraged. Please send suggestions to Candace Crowley at [ccrowley@mail.michbar.org](mailto:ccrowley@mail.michbar.org). The State Bar of Michigan reserves the right to edit for clarity and suggests that submissions be kept at 500 words or fewer.

#### Submission Deadlines:

February 15, 2008

June 15, 2008

October 15, 2008

## Thank You to Kim

Candace Crowley

From our September 2006 touchdown in Sault Ste. Marie to begin the UP Tour to the time she put her gavel down a year later in Grand Rapids, Kim Cahill and I made over 80 visits to Michigan bar associations, with Kim leading the lion's share of those. Kim made my job a dream because she knew just about everything. She never said no to any request for help or opportunity for camaraderie. She was a model of confidence and independent style, she was generous in all ways, she was big fun, and she was just terrific. We all knew that. But then, her seemingly endless energy just, inexplicably, ended.

Like many of you, I still struggle to figure out why that happened, and how I can honor Kim's legacy through the right personal measures. The comforting part is that Kim showed us there is no shortage of actions to model, no lack of worthy groups to support, no lawyer who doesn't need a friend, and no contribution to justice that could be too small. Thank you, Kim; you had it all, and you shared it so generously with us. It was a privilege.

## Kimberly M. Cahill Fund Created by WLAM Foundation; Leadership Roundtable Established

The WLAM Foundation has established a special fund in memory of Kim, the Foundation's long-serving treasurer and dear friend. In Kim's honor, the Foundation will commit all Cahill Fund contributions to projects benefiting women leaders. Awards will be made in two categories: (1) to elected presidents of the WLAM of Michigan and its regional chapters who attend the State Bar of Michigan's annual Bar Leadership Forum, and (2) to outstanding women law students meeting the Foundation's criteria for leadership.

Through a partnership with the State Bar inspired by Kim's example, a Leadership Roundtable will be underwritten by the WLAM Foundation to follow the Bar Leadership Forum. For more information on the Cahill Fund, see [www.wlamfoundation.org/youcan.html](http://www.wlamfoundation.org/youcan.html).

## Calendar of Events

NOMINATIONS CLOSE FOR  
MAJOR STATE BAR AWARDS

April 2, 2008

[http://www.michbar.org/news/releases/archives08/sbmawards\\_nomination.cfm](http://www.michbar.org/news/releases/archives08/sbmawards_nomination.cfm)

## LAW DAY

May 1, 2008

NOMINATIONS CLOSE FOR LIBERTY  
BELL AWARD

May 2, 2008

## GOLDEN CELEBRATION

May 12, 2008

St. John's Inn, Plymouth

LEGAL MILESTONE REDEDICATION  
ROSE OF ABERLONE

May 13, 2008

Plymouth, Michigan

## YOUNG LAWYERS SUMMIT

May 16-17

Soaring Eagle Resort

## BAR LEADERSHIP FORUM

Mackinac Island

June 13-14, 2008

## UPPER MICHIGAN LEGAL INSTITUTE

Mackinac Island

June 13-14, 2008

<http://www.michbar.org/UMLI.cfm>

## STATE BAR ANNUAL MEETING

September 17-19, 2008

Dearborn

## Bar Leadership Forum

We are hoping to see all of you at the June 13 and 14 BLF at Mackinac Island. Our leadership speaker is Dan Mulhern. This year's Saturday morning program includes a session devoted strictly to bar associations. "Understanding Common Ground and Identifying Differences" will quickly move through those things that bind us all together, and go on to enlist your input on the differences that make our bars unique. From there, we'll break into smaller units to work on topics you identify for discussion. This is a great opportunity for presidents and new leaders to learn, network, and have fun with each other.

## Michigan Association of Bar Executives Hosts Boot Camp for Staffed Bars

On April 25, executive directors and incoming presidents of Michigan's staffed bars will gather at the State Bar building for a daylong workshop to develop strategies that foster and strengthen communication between board and staff. Facilitated by ABA's Jennifer Lewin, the planners, including President Kim Coleman of the Grand Rapids Bar, will use case studies and communication worksheets to advance their goals. For more information, contact MABE treasurer Ramona Sain at [rls@gcbalaw.org](mailto:rls@gcbalaw.org).

## Are You Ready for Law Day?

Many of you have programs in place, and some are still thinking about them. Time is short at this point, but both the State Bar and the ABA have ideas for you. For an inventory of Law Day work in Michigan last year, based on your responses, see the [memo](#) describing same. The ABA has great [Law Day resources](#). Highlights from Michigan [Law Day 2007](#) were featured in the June *Michigan Bar Journal*.

## Bar Ideas for Judicial Election Programs

The February 2008 issue of the [ABA Bar Leader Toolkit](#) is now online. It looks at the role a fair and impartial judiciary serves and offers possible community programs as well as an op-ed, letter to the editor, and bar publication column suitable for affinity bars. The State Bar has copies of the "Protecting Our Rights Protecting Our Courts" DVD. Contact Tracie Dinehart at [tdinehart@mail.michbar.org](mailto:tdinehart@mail.michbar.org) or (517) 346-6316.

## Of Note for Young Lawyers

The [Young Lawyers Summit](#) will occur on May 16-17 at Soaring Eagle Resort in Mt. Pleasant. A panel on "Young Lawyer Leadership at the Local Bar Level" is included. This is a terrific opportunity for young lawyers to gain substantive and leadership information and to learn about YLS activities around the state.

## Report from Representative Assembly; Pictorial Directory Now Available

Chief Justice Clifford Taylor will be presenting the annual State of the Judiciary address at the Representative Assembly meeting on April 12 at Lansing Community College. The address will be televised on MG-TV. The Assembly's [Pictorial Directory](#) is now up on its website. For more information, contact Anne Smith at [asmith@mail.michbar.org](mailto:asmith@mail.michbar.org) or (517) 346-6374.



Members of the Dearborn Bar Association gather with State Bar President Ron Keefe at a February 2008 dinner meeting. From left to right, Helal Farhat, Judge William Hultgren, Ron Keefe, President Elizabeth Lea DiSanto, David Camaj and Bill Debiasi

### Downriver Bar Updates Photo Composite, Plans Membership Directory

President Neil DeBlois is undertaking the challenge to update the bar's composite photograph. Portraits have been done every eight years since 1976 and hang in many of the Downriver courthouses. Every downriver attorney is welcome to take part in the historic commemoration, and only dues-paying members can be included—a great way to bring dues up-to-date. The Association provided complementary hors d'oeuvres, and a cash bar was available to enjoy while the photographer worked. Neil is also creating a membership directory, using pictures from the composite and including fields of practice so referrals among members can be made.

### Grand Traverse-Leelanau-Antrim Bar Showcases Member Newsletter

Lee Hornberger, president of the GTLA Bar, readily agreed to share the bar's electronic newsletter with readers of *Connections*. The Winter 2008 issue features members who are military veterans and includes an article on "What Judge Rodgers Has Said About Weekly Rentals." Thanks, Lee.

### Women's Bar Association Features Lunch Programs

The Oakland County regional WLAM group is conducting a series of lunch programs, the next one to occur on April 22. "Networking 101" presents Maryann Schlie, a certified trainer with Business Network International, a business and professional networking organization, who will teach how to develop your own 60-second commercial. Location: Oakland County Bar Association. Past programs have included "The Balancing Act," "Speak EZ in Front of Groups," and "Create a Buzz About Yourself." Each event is \$10 for WLAM members, \$15 for non-members, and includes lunch. President Jill Krolikowski leads this effort; contact her at (248) 336-9680.

### Out and About

The Women Lawyers Association of Michigan annual meeting will be held on April 24 at the Crowne Plaza in Novi, where **Ann Erickson-Gault** will become the next WLAM president. The theme of the meeting is "Advancing Women in the Profession."

The Dickinson-Iron County Bar Association welcomes **Gerald Pirkola** as its new president.

The Federal Bar Association, Eastern District, announces the 2008 Eastern District of Michigan Bench Bar Conference to occur at 11:30 on April 17 at the Dearborn Inn. Conference co-chairs are **Hon. Mona K. Majzoub, U.S. Magistrate Judge**, and **Jeffrey A. Sadowski**. Contact **Brian Figot** at [fbamich@fbamich.org](mailto:fbamich@fbamich.org) for details.

The Centennial Inn of Court featured **JoAnn Hathaway** from the State Bar Practice Management Resource Center at its February meeting.

Congratulations to **Margie Rhead** for receiving the American Lawyers Auxiliary Lifetime Achievement Award! Michigan's **Jeanne Skilton**, president of American Lawyers Auxiliary, nominated Margie. Margie is a member of Michigan Lawyers Auxiliary. She has been president of MLA, ALA, and the Midland Auxiliary. She has most recently been the treasurer for MLA and ALA for the last two years.

**Brian Madar** is the president of the Clinton County Bar Association, which will welcome **Ron Keefe** at its March 27 meeting.

**Judge Donna Robinson Milhouse** leads the Michigan District Judges Association this year.

The Muskegon County Bar Association hosted speaker **Victoria Kremski**, State Bar deputy director of Professional Standards, at its March 12 meeting.

The Ingham County Bar Association is getting ready for its May 21 Shrimp Dinner and Annual Meeting to be held at the Liederkrantz Club.

The Macomb Bar is holding its Annual Dinner & Elections Banquet on April 17 at Fern Hill Country Club.

## Is Your Bar Ready for a Michigan Lawyers Auxiliary Chapter?

The Michigan Lawyers Auxiliary is looking for bars interested in organizing new chapters. MLA works to create better citizen awareness of the law, and serves the organized bar associations of the State of Michigan. Members are extremely active in Law Day and school-based legal education programs. Saginaw, Midland, Grand Rapids, Ingham, and Kalamazoo already have chapters. For more information, visit the [MLA website](#) and contact Marty Triantafyllou, 2835 Dorset, Saginaw, MI 48603, (989) 791-2046, [martytriant@gmail.com](mailto:martytriant@gmail.com); Marjorie D. Rhead, 1809 Vine, Midland, MI 48642, (989) 631-1370, [\\_therhead@charter.net](mailto:_therhead@charter.net); or Sally Purcell, [perchinsag@aol.com](mailto:perchinsag@aol.com).



Wayne State's Dean Frank Wu, left, and Cooley Assistant Dean and Law Professor John Nussbaumer, right, join Judge Michael Martone, president, Italian American Bar Association at recent dinner meeting



Neil DeBlois, president of the Downriver Bar Association, chats with members Linda Soave and Curtis Smith.

# SBM

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