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From the Newsletter Director

Lauren Friend McKelvey, *Wiley Rein LLP*

As summer winds down, take the time to reconnect with your IWIRC colleagues. This issue of the IWIRC Connection will catch you up on the summer's network events and recent accomplishments of fellow IWIRC members. Which IWIRC members donned chef hats to make cupcakes and cocktails? For the answer (and pictures), see the Network Happenings section, where the **New Jersey, Georgia, Alabama, Carolinas, Florida, Virginia** and **Greater Maryland** networks share their summer events. This newsletter also features articles by **Jennifer Taylor** and **Shawn Christian-son** of the **Northern California Network** highlighting the Leadership Summit in San Francisco and by **Tara Schellhorn** with details of the **Mid-Atlantic Region's** recent events. In the Network Corner, **Brya Keilson** puts one of IWIRC's newer networks – the **Greater Philadelphia Network** – in the spotlight.

Looking forward to fall, this issue provides details on an ABI Workshop "Lending to Distressed Companies" (live and webcast) co-sponsored by the **Greater Maryland** and **Washington DC** networks, IWIRC's 21st Annual Fall International Conference in **Chicago**, and other upcoming events.

In preparation for IWIRC's Fall Conference, which features panels on health care bankruptcies and law firm insolvencies, this newsletter covers two articles on those topics: one by **Jennifer Mercer** entitled "Protecting Patient Privacy in the Fishbowl of Bankruptcy" and another by me entitled "Client Matters are Not Law Firm Property in New York and Other Updates in Unfinished Business Cases."

Why join IWIRC? This was the question posed to **Sheryl Seigel** during the filming of IWIRC's 20 year anniversary video last year. Sheryl has submitted an open letter on the benefits of joining IWIRC; it is a moving tribute to the women of IWIRC who "never fail to engage, motivate and inspire" us.

We hope that the stories in this newsletter inspire the networks to continue hosting outstanding events and IWIRC's members to continue promoting one another.

Regards,

Lauren Friend McKelvey

(continued)

connecting women worldwide

International Women's Insolvency and Restructuring Confederation

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The International Women's
Insolvency and Restructuring
Confederation E-Newsletter

Volume 17, Number 2
August 2014

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An Open Letter to Anyone Considering Joining IWIRC

(and in tribute and praise of my dear friends and IWIRC colleagues)

Sheryl E. Seigel, *McMillan LLP, IWIRC Past-Chair, 2000-2002*



Sheryl E. Seigel

If you had to give one reason to give to someone considering joining IWIRC, what would that be? A question to similar effect was posed to me at the conclusion of my interview for the 20 year anniversary video commissioned by IWIRC last year.

Those who know me will appreciate that I am rarely at a loss for words. Still, I paused. In fact, I froze. That this was being recorded only made things worse. Why then did I hesitate in responding to a straight forward inquiry regarding an organization that I passionately admire, endlessly champion and unashamedly promote?

With the benefit of a bit more time to consider what had occurred, I came to recognize that this seemingly simple question had unleashed a flood of memories, experiences and, yes, emotions, all of which made it difficult for me to distill my endorsement of IWIRC into a single reason. Mindful of the importance of this answer, I very much wanted to respond in a manner that would broadly resonate with anyone who might be considering joining IWIRC and, at the same time, pay proper tribute to the amazing and brilliant IWIRC professionals that I have met and worked with, in some cases, for almost two decades. This, in turn, caused me, the camera all the while running, to silently begin to list, evaluate and rank the multitude of “reasons” that came rushing through my mind.

I requested a moment to organize my thoughts (and feelings) and then, following a further painful pause, finally attempted an answer. The resulting response, I am not proud to admit, was less than eloquent and did not do proper justice to IWIRC. And so, in retrospect and with respect, I offer this unsolicited note with the hope it encourages others to join and advocate for IWIRC and in recognition of the remarkable and resourceful professionals I have come to know through IWIRC.

Returning to the interviewer’s original question, the short answer is: “the people.” And while this does not fully express the depth of my connection to and admiration for IWIRC, it does epitomize why IWIRC is so extraordinarily unique. We are professionals, mostly women, who understand the competing demands of work, life and family. We are strong, yet vulnerable, confident, yet self-doubting, gregarious, yet sometimes introspective. IWIRC is populated by women who never fail to engage, motivate and inspire.

Professional confidence. If I can sum up what IWIRC has given to me in a single phrase, it would be that. IWIRC helped shape my professional life. It allowed me to take on challenging and significant responsibilities and gave me the confidence to venture outside my comfort zone. After being a member of its board of directors for many years, I was privileged to serve as Chair of IWIRC from 2000-2002. In 1994, I co-founded the Canadian Network. In 1999, I experienced the terror and joy of being program chair of the IWIRC NCBJ conference the first time we programmed in San Francisco (and, yes, our evening reception included the inaugural and, I am proud to say, first of many to follow, IWIRC skills training sessions involving the pairing of foods and wines). My IWIRC friends and colleagues have expanded my outreach, opening doors to work and speaking opportunities and to leadership roles in other organizations. These experiences taught me important skills, broadened my perspective and, most importantly, allowed me to have confidence in what I could accomplish.

IWIRC members are among my most revered colleagues and dearest personal friends. You have been with me as I celebrated my kids growing up, at wedding anniversaries and the marriages of my children. You “know my story” and inspire me. You generously have shared your work and life experiences, family occasions and significant milestones with me. Along the way, we have provided one another with encouragement, mentoring, advice, a shoulder to lean on, validation and sage counsel; better equipping us all to face career crossroads and challenges, tackle client problems and grapple with professional and personal dynamics.

IWIRC is an organization focused on women professionals. We foster networking, learning and mentoring in a non-threatening and non-competitive environment in which members can openly share work and life experiences. We provide a forum and platform for members to publicize their successes, seek and provide mentoring, share intelligence and refer opportunities to one and other. We also provide members with opportunities to enhance their skills,

expand their professional outreach, develop their external profiles and gain leadership experience and proficiency. We build professional confidence. The real icing on the cake is that we have such a great time doing this!

At the very first IWIRC NCBJ program in Toronto in 1994, I experienced an immediate affinity with the women in the room. It says so much about IWIRC that I continue to experience this same feeling each time I attend one of our conferences. I am proud to be a member of IWIRC and hope to have contributed in some way to the outstanding organization it has become. IWIRC is to be acknowledged and praised for having developed a future generation of leaders, a dynamic and growing network of local chapters and a strong and loyal member base. I look forward with great anticipation to the next 20 years. THE PEOPLE, they are the reason why you join IWIRC: people to look up to, emulate, mentor, promote, share, laugh and vent with and, yes, forever treasure.

IWIRC Leadership Conference Ascends on the City By the Bay

Jennifer Taylor, O'Melveny & Myers LLP



Jennifer Taylor

The foggy San Francisco summer was the setting for this year's Leadership Conference. From August 6 through 8, network co-chairs and—for the first time—five additional at-large delegates, for a total of 80 attendees were welcomed to the home of the Golden Gate, cable cars and Ghirardelli chocolates! Representatives came from far and wide, including 20 states as well as Canada, Hong Kong, Grand Cayman, Japan, Germany and Singapore.

The event kicked off on August 6 at a Kurtzman Carson Consultants LLC-hosted dinner at the Ferry Building's Slanted Door restaurant, overlooking Treasure Island and the Bay Bridge. The wonderful setting and conversation were arguably outdone only by the lychee cotton candy adorning the tables at the end of the night.

On August 7, IWIRC International chair **Jennifer Meyerowitz** welcomed the group to the offices of Sedgwick LLP, our generous host for the session. The morning featured a panel entitled **Making IWIRC Work for You and Your Network**, addressing the topics of building and sustaining membership, succession planning and obtaining a return on your investment in the organization. The talk was moderated by **Leslie Berkoff** and **Judy Elkin** and featured panelists **Kelly McDonald, Karen Fellowes, Michelle Salazar** and **Ali Kelly**.

Following our lively panel, we heard from our featured speaker, Professor Kellie McElhaney from the UC Berkeley Haas School of Business on **The Value of Investing in Women**. Thanks go to Epiq for sponsoring Professor McElhaney's talk.

The day was capped off by a wine country outing. Departing the fog for sunny Sonoma County, the event included a stop at the historic Healdsburg Square for a bit of shopping before a private wine-tasting at Rodney Strong Winery. Afterward we were treated to a vintner's dinner in the J Vineyards barrel room, where we were welcomed by the owner herself, Judy



Networking dinner at Leadership Summit (Left to Right) Leanne Prendergast (Florida), Caroline Moran (Cayman Islands), Suzana Koch (Northeast Ohio), Lindsey Livingston (Carolinas) and Lara Glaesman (Minnesota).

Jordan. The event was made possible by our generous sponsors: Capstone Advisory Group, Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones LLP, Schnader LLP, Buchalter Nemer PC, O'Melveny & Myers LLP, Binder & Malter LLP, Eichstaedt, Law Offices of Miriam Hiser, and Imperial Capital.

The final day of the conference was started off with a breakfast hosted by Rust Omni followed by board and committee meetings—not to mention some unforgettable games. The three-day event was capped off with a lovely lunch at Annabelle's near Union Square courtesy of the Garden City Group.

On behalf of the Northern California network and my co-chair **Kathryn Richter**, we hope all of the attendees enjoyed their stay in our city and the wonderful networking opportunity. In the spirit of "making IWIRC work for you," please be sure to reach out to us when you are back in town.

A Not To Be Missed Presentation

Shawn M. Christianson, San Francisco Office Managing Shareholder, *Buchalter Nemer, P.C.*

A highlight of the 2014 IWIRC Annual Leadership Summit, held this year from August 6-8th in beautiful San Francisco, was the guest speaker, Kellie McElhaney, who spoke on "The Value of Investing in Women."

McElhaney, a professor at the UC Berkeley Haas School of Business, used statistics, research, media clips and personal anecdotes in keeping the IWIRC leadership engaged and enlightened throughout her very well received presentation, which was sponsored by Epiq Systems. Professor McElhaney, a faculty fellow at the Haas Business School regarding Corporate Sustainability, used this lens through which to advance the case for investing in women—a persuasive platform for, and fresh perspective on, why it just makes sense to educate, engage, empower and advance the interests of girls and women, both in business and in international development.

Her presentation is not to be missed, and if you weren't at the Leadership Conference, please let Shari Bedker, who has a link to the presentation, know that you'd like to review it. You won't be disappointed!



Shawn Christianson

Vote For IWIRC's At-Large Directors!

Cast your vote now for six director-at-large positions on the IWIRC International board. These positions are for a two-year term (October 2014-October 2016). Voting will end on **Friday, September 5th at 5:00 pm** prevailing US eastern time. Voters are allowed to select up to six candidates. Candidates are all members of IWIRC:

- Janice Alwin** (Chicago Network)
- Shawn Christianson** (Northern California)
- Paige Ellerman** (Cincinnati/No. Kentucky Network)
- Elizabeth Gunn** (Virginia Network)
- Margie Kaufman** (New England Network)
- Ali Kelly** (New York Network)
- Salene Mazur Kraemer** (W. Pennsylvania Network)
- Suzanne Koenig** (Chicago Network)
- Kerri Mumford** (Delaware Network)
- Charity Neukomm** (Central Kentucky Network)
- Christy Prince** (Central Ohio Network)
- Lori Vaughan** (Florida Network)
- Shayna Steinfeld** (Georgia Network)
- Kristina Wesch** (New York Network)
- Nora Wouters** (European Network)

Please [click here](#) for more information on the candidates and to cast your vote!

The IWIRC Office Has Moved!

Shari Bedker, IWIRC's Administrative Director, has moved! Effective June 30, 2014, IWIRC's new mailing address and phone is:

P.O. Box 249
Stanardsville, VA 22973
703-449-1316
703-802-0207 fax

The physical address for packages sent via UPS or FedEx is:

IWIRC
c/o Shari A. Bedker
224 Blue Jay Way
Stanardsville, VA 22973

If you have any questions please contact Shari Bedker at sbedker@iwirc.com.

In addition, IWIRC is pleased to welcome a new administrative assistant, Kiersten Dawson. Kiersten holds a degree in Accounting from Penn State. She, along with Shari Bedker at the helm, will be the main point of contact for IWIRC. Kiersten can be reached at kdawson@iwirc.com. We would also like to extend our many thanks to Marcy Gravatt for her excellent service as IWIRC's administrative assistant since 2008.

Protecting Patient Privacy in the Fishbowl of Bankruptcy

Jennifer Mercer, *Epiq Systems*

One of the most daunting issues in administering bankruptcy cases in the healthcare sector is maintaining federally mandated patient privacy and confidentiality while still meeting the level of transparency required by bankruptcy law. HIPAA's stringent privacy rule and HITECH's electronic privacy protections are often at odds with the Bankruptcy Code's disclosure requirements. How, then, are debtors to balance these needs? These issues are addressed in the article *Protecting Patient Privacy in the Fishbowl of Bankruptcy*, [click here to read the article](#) co-authored by IWIRC Communications Chair **Jennifer Mercer** of Epiq Systems.



Updates in Law Firm Bankruptcy Unfinished Business Cases

Lauren Friend McKelvey, *Wiley Rein LLP*

Unfinished business cases have been hot this summer. For those who have not had the opportunity to follow every twist and turn (or just need a refresher), here are the five developments you need to know to be "in the know" on bankruptcy unfinished business cases:

- 1) On June 11, the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California (Judge Breyer) held that hourly fee matters are **not** property of law firms but of clients in a lawsuit arising out of the bankruptcy case of Heller Ehrman LLP.
- 2) Across the country, on July 1, the New York Court of Appeals reached the same conclusion. In appeals arising from the Thelen LLP and Coudert Brothers LLP bankruptcy cases, it ruled "[a] law firm does not own a client or an engagement, and is only entitled to be paid for services actually rendered."

These two decisions disrupted a long-line of cases following *Jewel v. Boxer* that had allowed trustees of bankrupt law firms to claw back profits earned by former partners on client matters they brought to their new firms.

- 3) On July 10, the plan administrator for Heller Ehrman appealed the District Court's decision to the Ninth Circuit. It remains to be seen whether the Ninth Circuit will take the same approach as the Second Circuit and certify the question of whether client matters belong to law firms to the California Supreme Court. Because *Jewel v. Boxer* was a decision from an intermediate California appellate, the California Supreme Court's interpretation of *Jewel* would be persuasive authority in unfinished business cases across the country.
- 4) On July 15, in the Howrey LLP bankruptcy case, Judge Armstrong of the U.S. District Court

for the Northern District of California declined to withdraw the reference and sent the bankruptcy trustee's unfinished business cases back to the bankruptcy court.

- 5) On August 8, also in the Howrey LLP bankruptcy case, Judge Armstrong affirmed the bankruptcy court's decision that the automatic stay precluded one of the law firms sued by the trustee from bringing a declaratory judgment action in the District of Columbia seeking a determination that former Howrey partners had no duty to account to the debtor for unfinished business profits on hourly rate matters brought to their new firms.

For more, see my post *Client Matters are Not Law Firm Property in New York and Other Updates in Unfinished Business Cases* [by clicking here](#).

Regional Networking Takes Off: The Mid-Atlantic Region

Tara J. Schellhorn, *Riker Danzig Scherer Hyland & Perretti, LLP*



Tara Schellhorn

The newly-formed Mid-Atlantic Regional Programming Committee, spearheaded by IWIRC-DE member **Evelyn Meltzer**, includes members from the **Delaware (Jennifer Dering and Evelyn Meltzer)**, **Greater Maryland (Susan Jaffe Roberts and Kristen Siracusa)**, **New Jersey (Tara Schellhorn)** and **Greater Philadelphia (Marie Dooley, Brya Keilson, Jennifer Knox and Kitt Turner)** Networks. The Committee hit the ground running this year and has already hosted three (3) events.

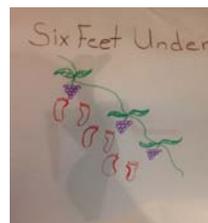
On May 19, 2014, "Team IWIRC" – which included members from the Delaware, New Jersey and Philadelphia Networks – participated in the 13th Annual Yoga on the Steps event at The Philadelphia Museum of Art. In addition to networking with each other, the women raised funds for Living Beyond Breast Cancer's education and support programs.



On June 11, 2014, women from across the region joined together for a meet and greet at Corso Coffee, located in Revel Resort & Casino in Atlantic City, prior to the start of the Turn-around Management Association's 2014 Mid-Atlantic Regional Symposium.

Finally, on August 1, 2014, the Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey and Philadelphia Networks co-sponsored an event – "Name that Wine" featuring Laurie Forster, an award-winning sommelier, radio personality and comedian – during the American Bankruptcy Institute's Mid-Atlantic Bankruptcy Workshop in Cambridge, Maryland. Attendees practiced the art of "blind tasting" by working in teams to learn the skills needed to identify each wine's grape varietal and then competed to see who could "Name that Wine." Special thanks to IWIRC-DE member **Ericka Johnson** for planning this fun event.

The Committee is looking forward to working together and finding new and different opportunities to connect women across the Mid-Atlantic Region.



Laurie Forster and pictures drawn by IWIRC members as part of an exercise to create their own fictional wine – from the country of origin, varietal, marketing concept and label. The resulting "wines" hailed from Iceland to Argentina!

Network Corner: Spotlight on the Greater Philadelphia Network

Brya M. Keilson, *Gellert Scali Busenkell & Brown, LLC*



Brya Keilson

IWIRC **Greater Philadelphia** elected a new board in February of 2014, which was our first election since our inception. Although we are a relatively new network, we are coming into our own and are well on our way as a successful IWIRC network. We have held a wide variety of events over the past several months and continue to expand our membership and sponsor base through our existing member's connections.

Over the past year, we have been holding monthly events, alternating between happy hours and luncheon programs. Both types of events have been successful. Our luncheon programs topics have varied, and have included book and article discussions, and discussions about women in the profession and industry specific topics. We have been lucky to be able to pull from the senior women bankruptcy practitioners in the Greater Philadelphia area to help enhance our network and events. Our happy hours have been held at various locations throughout Philadelphia.

We are excited to host an upcoming event for the new bankruptcy judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania in October. She has been a great supporter of women in the profession throughout her years in practice.

As a smaller and newer network, our network has benefitted from hosting joint events with other local IWIRC networks. We have been a host of the IWIRC at the Shore conference since its inception, which has been a great success and has increased the exposure for our network. We have also co-hosted events with other organizations, which have also been successful.

We have high hopes for our network as we move forward. We are currently planning a member and sponsor appreciation event that will be attended by members of the clerk's office of the Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and we hope the Judges of this court will attend as well, as our Judges have been extremely supportive of our network. We are also planning a winter event centered around the tree lighting in Rittenhouse Square. We hope this will become an annual event to which our members and sponsors will look forward.

We welcome new members. If you would like more information on membership, please contact **Marie Dooley** (mdooley@foxrothschild.com) or **Carolyn Dicker** (carolyn@hochstadterdicker.com). For more information on our events, please contact **Deirdre Richards** (DRichards@lammlaw.com) or **Hilleary Nguyen** (hilleary.nguyen@bipc.com).

Fun Fact:

We now have over 1,300 members worldwide and still climbing!

Did you Know...

Did You Know that you can post job openings on IWIRC's LinkedIn Group? This is a great help to other IWIRC members and can help with firm diversity initiatives.

ABI Workshop on Lending to Distressed Companies Co-Sponsored by the IWIRC Greater Maryland and Washington DC Networks

Join the IWIRC **Greater Maryland** and **Washington DC** Networks either live or via webcast at the American Bankruptcy Institute (ABI) Workshop on Lending to Distressed Companies: Credit Analysis to Exit Strategy (or Keeping the Benefit of Your Bargain) on September 15, 2014 at ABI Headquarters, 66 Canal Center Plaza, Alexandria, VA 22314, just minutes from DC's Union Station and Reagan National Airport.

This focused program will feature three panels of experts from the worlds of law, banking, turnaround finance, portfolio management and factoring to share their insights into today's lending environment, including sessions on

- Current market conditions for middle-market companies in need;
- Portfolio and credit management in the post-recession era; and
- Inter-creditor and lender-liability issues, equitable subordination, fee structures and make-whole provisions from a legal perspective.

Among the participants are IWIRC members **Joyce A. Kuhns**, Moderator (Greater Maryland Network), **Lisa Stern**, Moderator (New Jersey Network), **Linda V. Donhauser**, Panelist (Greater Maryland Network), and **Kristin K. Going**, Panelist (Washington DC Network).

IWIRC members on the ABI Workshop Advisory Council are **Maria Chavez-Ruark** (Greater Maryland Network), **Rosa J. Evergreen** (Washington DC Network), **Joyce A. Kuhns** (Greater Maryland Network), and **Lauren Friend McKelvey** (Washington DC Network).

In addition to IWIRC Greater Maryland and IWIRC Washington DC, the program is co-sponsored by the Chesapeake Chapter of the Turnaround Management Association, New York Institute of Credit, ABF Journal and the Northeast Chapter of the International Factoring Association.

The Workshop begins with a Networking Lunch at 12:30 p.m. and a Cocktail Reception follows the program at 5:30 p.m. on ABI's rooftop deck overlooking the Potomac River. There are two options for attendance: in person for \$195 (which includes lunch, the networking cocktail reception and CLE) or via webcast (\$95).

To view the full schedule & register for either in-person or webcast attendance please visit the [program website](#).

Join Us at IWIRC's 21st Annual Fall International Conference!

Please join us for IWIRC's 21st Annual Fall International Conference on October 7-8, 2014 at the Chicago Hyatt Regency in Chicago, Illinois. The conference begins on Tuesday, October 7th at 5:30 p.m. with an opening reception at the Mid-America Club.

Wednesday, October 8th features a full day of programming, beginning with two panel discussions – "Law Firm Insolvencies: Risks and Liabilities for Professionals" and "First, Do No Harm - Current Trends and Hot Topics in Health Care Bankruptcies." Next, attendees will enjoy lunch, along with the presentation of IWIRC's Rising Star Award. In the afternoon, experience Chicago by choosing from one of these intermezzo events – a hot chocolate dessert party at Mindy's Hot Chocolate, a Chicago Architecture Foundation River Cruise or a bike tour of signature lakefront neighborhoods.

For more information, or to register, [click here](#).



ABA Section of International Law Fall Meeting in Buenos Aires, Argentina

The ABA Section of International Law invites IWIRC members to attend its 2014 Fall Meeting in the beautiful city of Buenos Aires, Argentina from October 21-25, 2014. IWIRC is a Cooperating Entity on this event and members can register for the conference at the discounted ABA Section of International Law Member Rates by using the hardcopy registration form.

The 2014 Fall Meeting will bring together over 1,000 leading attorneys, corporate counsel, government officials, academics and NGO lawyers for a conference unlike any other. World-class speakers and international legal experts will lead over 70 continuing legal education sessions on international legal and ethics issues including sessions on Business, Regulation and Compliance; Dispute Resolution and Litigation; Environmental and Energy; Human Rights; Legal Practice and Ethics; M&A, Finance and Tax; and Public International Law and Rule of Law.

2014 Fall Meeting attendees will have limitless opportunities to network with colleagues, decision makers, and potential clients from around the world and will also have ample time to experience the sights and sounds of Buenos Aires at planned social events, receptions and outings. All registrants will take home a free bottle of Malbec wine and leather iPad holder and will have the opportunity to sign up for several activities around Buenos Aires including free tango lessons and a home hospitality night. There will also be planned entertainment for registered guests, spouses and significant others.

Register before September 8th to save on your registration with Early Bird Rates. Registration rates are further discounted for young lawyers (35 years and under), full time government and NGO employees, academics, law students, corporate counsel, solo / small practice and retired attorneys.

Please visit the [Fall 2014 Meeting webpage](#) for more information on programming, hotel accommodations and the latest updates on the 2014 Fall Meeting.

Network Happenings

New Jersey Network

The **New Jersey Network** has had a busy 2014 so far, jam packed with exciting new networking events.

On March 11, 2014, the New Jersey Network joined forces with the Women's Divisions of the New Jersey Turnaround Management Association and the New York Institute of Credit to host "Mixer at the Metropolitan," a networking event featuring an engaging and interactive presentation entitled "Cocktail School: Tips and Tools for Effective Networking" by IWIRC-New England member **Sheila Smith**, a principal and the national co-leader for Deloitte Corporate Restructuring Group.

On April 2, 2014, the New Jersey Network showed off its creative side during a fun-filled event at Pinot's Palette in Montclair, where members and sponsors had a chance to paint, drink wine and network.

On May 1, 2014, the New Jersey Network hosted a recruiting event, "Cupcakes and Cocktails," at Green Brook Country Club in North Caldwell, where attendees enjoyed a night of friendly competition. Congratulations to the team of **Arielle Sepulveda, Christy McDonald, Lauren Bielskie, Meredith Friedman** and **Shoshana Schiff** for creating the winning cupcake and cocktail combo!



On July 10, 2014, the New Jersey Network hosted a members and sponsors only cocktail party with the Clerk's Office for the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of New Jersey. More than sixty people joined IWIRC to network at the scenic McLoone's Boathouse in West Orange and celebrate the people that work so hard to keep our court running.

The New Jersey Network has a number of other events planned for the rest of the year, including a casino night on October 15, 2014, celebrating the Network's 10th Anniversary. We look forward to sharing more updates soon.

Georgia Network

For many **IWIRC-Georgia Network** members, fall means busier schedules with the start of school which brings not only more responsibility but more traffic and longer commute times. To help gear up for this busy time of year, the Network sponsored an exciting cooking class where members learned tips and recipes for quick and healthy weeknight family meals. The class, led by Meagan F. Moyer, a registered dietician, focused on quick and easy meals using fewer processed foods, recipes lower in fat, a shorter shopping list, and spending less time in the kitchen.

In late July, the Georgia Network partnered with the Professional Women's Group of Atlanta Dress for Success to host the second annual panel on budgeting, savings and checking accounts, credit and debit cards, credit reports and secured transactions. The event was well-attended and reaffirms the need for debt education and consumer preparedness in our society. IWIRC Georgia Network members **Leah Fiorenza McNeill** (Bryan Cave LLP), **Katy Furr** (Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC), **Michele J. Kim** (King & Spalding LLP), **Madeleine Kvalheim** (Law Clerk to the Honorable Barbara Ellis-Monro at U.S. Bankruptcy Court), and **Alexandra "CC" Schnapp** (Law Clerk to the Honorable C. Ray Mullins at U.S. Bankruptcy Court) volunteered to meet with attendees before and after the panel to address individual questions.

The Georgia Network is rolling head-on into fall, having held a membership networking happy hour on August 14, where members and prospects mingled, networked and built lasting connections. The end of the year brings many exciting opportunities for networking and relationship-building. Stay tuned for details of the Georgia Networks upcoming events.

Alabama, Carolinas, Florida, Georgia, and Virginia Networks

The **Alabama, Carolinas, Florida, Georgia, and Virginia Networks** co-hosted a relaxing lunch after the panel sessions at the ABI Southeast Workshop and welcomed over sixty attendees from all IWIRC networks along with the **Honorable Mary Grace Diehl** (Bankr. N.D. Ga.), the Honorable John T. Laney, III (Bankr. M.D. Ga.), the Honorable Margaret A. Mahoney (Bankr. S.D. Ala.), and the Honorable John E. Waites (Bankr. D.S.C.). It was always great to connect with members and judges from far and wide.

Greater Maryland Network

On June 9, 2014, the **Greater Maryland Network** presented *PITCH PERFECT: A Mock Demonstration*. Approximately 50 IWIRC members and guests were hosted by the Baltimore office of Venable LLP. After introductions by event co-chairs **Laura Bouyea** (Venable LLP) and **Deborah Hunt Devan** (Neuberger, Quinn, Gielen, Rubin & Gibber, P.A.), attendees watched IWIRC members pitch their firms to an experienced panel of regional business leaders and professionals. Participants pitched for the roles of debtor counsel, debtor financial advisor, committee counsel or committee financial advisor. Facts were derived from an actual middle market, Mid-Atlantic chapter 11 case.

In the hot seat were the two competing contestants for Debtor's counsel, Kristen E. Burgers, Esq. (Partner, Leach Travell Britt pc, Northern VA) and **Susan Jaffe Roberts, Esq.** (Partner, Whiteford, Taylor & Preston LLP) and proposed Debtor financial advisor, **Marjorie E. Kaufman** (Managing Director, Getzler Heinrich & Associates LLC, Boston, MA). Jamie L. Edmonson, Esq. (Partner, Venable LLP - Wilmington, DE) and **Patricia B. Jefferson, Esq.** (Principal, Miles & Stockbridge PC) vied for the position of Committee Counsel and **Angela Shortall** (Director, Protiviti Inc.) presented as proposed Committee financial advisor.

Taking on the role of specific debtor officers and directors for the first round of presentations and various committee members for the second round were: Richard J. Himelfarb (Executive Vice President, Chairman, Investment Banking, Stifel Nicolaus); Martin T. Fletcher, Esq., (Managing Partner, Whiteford, Taylor & Preston LLP); **Lisa Poulin** (Principal, Deloitte CRG); Mary Ann



Leah Fiorenza McNeill



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Alexandra "CC" Schnapp

Scully (President, CEO, Co-Founder, Howard Bank); and **J. Kate Stickles, Esq.** (Member, Cole, Schotz, Meisel, Forman & Leonard, P.A., Wilmington, DE). Panelists posed tough, real world questions to presenters and provided practical evaluations and advice at the end of the presentations.

Audience members benefited from the IWIRC members' thoughtful, well-constructed pitches, and the pragmatic immediate feedback from the panel regarding most effective pitch techniques. **Joyce A. Kuhns, Esq.** (Saul Ewing, LLP) served as moderator and timekeeper for the fast-paced 90 minute program. A lively networking reception followed.



On June 22, 2014, Laura Bouyea (Venable, LLP), Angela Shortall (Protiviti Inc.), Susan Klein (Gordon Feinblatt LLC), and Lori Simpson (Law Office of Lori Simpson, LLC) joined up for the 39th running of the Baltimore Women's Classic, the Mid-Atlantic's largest all women's 5k. Ok, some of us were walking, but all of us had a wonderful time bonding with each other and the 2900 other women there to support the Cancer Foundation – and each other.

On July 9, 2014, the **Greater Maryland Network** hosted its premier interactive video conference book club event at the offices of Protiviti Inc., joining the **Northeast Ohio Network** ("NEON") for a dynamic discussion of the book *The Tipping Point* by Malcolm Gladwell and an article from The Atlantic, *The Confidence Gap* by Katty Kay & Claire Shipman. Fourteen Greater Maryland Network members gathered for lunch and networking, and, together with the NEON members, had a thoughtful discussion on women, how we communicate in the workplace and how that experience has changed with each generation of professional women. With a diverse collection of women, in age and experience, we were able to engage in frank and honest discourse about our individual experiences and generate ideas for future programming to address the professional development concerns raised in the discussion. Thank you to **Emily Devan** for her work in organizing this event and developing thought-provoking questions to stimulate our multi-network dialogue.



In early August, the Greater Maryland Network Board gathered at Miles & Stockbridge PC to plan next year's events and programs and review the accomplishments of the past year. Our newly revitalized network is now 43 members strong. We are serving our membership with a variety of programming geared toward providing multiple platforms for networking, mentoring and professional development. The Board discussed a tentative slate of programming for the next year. Stay tuned. If the Board discussion is any indication, our events and programming should only get better from here!



Heather Byrd Asher



Leslie Berkoff



Summer Chandler



Maria Ellena Chavez-Ruark



Linda Donhauser



Catherine Hopkin



Joyce Kuhns



Three IWIRC Greater Maryland Network members attend Orioles game. Left to Right: Angela Shortall (Protiviti Inc.), Susan Klein (Gordon Feinblatt LLC), Larry Sheets (Baltimore Orioles Designated Hitter - 1984 to 1989), and Jovi Bohan (Stout Risius Ross Inc.)

Member News

The Georgia Network congratulates member **Heather Byrd Asher** on her new endeavor as Executive Director of [Ms.JD](#), a nonprofit focused on developing early career female attorneys. The Georgia Network knows Heather will flourish in her new position and applauds her for working to encourage and support our growing network of female attorneys.

Leslie Berkoff, a partner at the Garden City law firm of Moritt Hock & Hamroff LLP, has been selected to serve as Co-Chair of the Healthcare Subcommittee of the Business Bankruptcy Committee of the Business Law Section of the American Bar Association.

The Georgia Network congratulates member **Summer Chandler** on her move to McCalla Raymer as a Partner in its Commercial Litigation and Transactions Group. Summer will be based in the firm's Panama City, Florida office, but will be working in its various offices throughout the state of Florida and expects to spend time in its Atlanta office.

Maria Ellena Chavez-Ruark (Saul Ewing, LLP), **Deborah Hunt Devan** (Neuberger, Quinn, Gielen, Rubin & Gibber, P.A.), **Linda V. Donhauser** (Miles & Stockbridge PC), **Catherine K. Hopkin** (Tydings & Rosenberg, LLP) and **Joyce A. Kuhns** (Saul Ewing, LLP) have been named to the Maryland Super Lawyers list and **Susan Jaffe Roberts** (Whiteford, Taylor & Preston) has been named as a Rising Star for 2014 for bankruptcy. The annual Super Lawyers selections are made using a multi-phased process that includes a statewide survey of lawyers, an independent research evaluation and peer reviews.

Deborah Hunt Devan, takes up the debate: The Case For and the Case Against a Trustee Filing Claims for Creditors in the Summer 2014 issue of NABTalk, published by the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees. Ms. Deborah Devan, a former Chapter 7 Trustee, and active bankruptcy attorney in Chapter 7 and Chapter 11 matters, takes up the mantle for the argument against the Chapter 7 Trustee's filing of claims on behalf of creditors.

Janice B. Grubin has joined LeClairRyan as a shareholder on the firm's Bankruptcy and Creditor's Rights team. She will be resident in the national law firm's Manhattan office.

The Georgia Network congratulates member **Katie Keane** on her move to McGuireWoods LLP as an Associate in the Restructuring and Insolvency group. Katie will be based in Tysons Corner, Virginia.

The Chicago Network congratulates **Jennifer McConnell**, Mesirow Financial, as the Network's new Treasurer, filling the former position of Anne Vanderkamp. Jennifer stepped in and helped as Interim Treasurer when Anne Vanderkamp was out of the office on maternity leave and has shown her dedication to IWIRC in her role as Programming Co-Chair. Chicago looks forward to Jennifer's input on the Board in her new position.

Lisa Yonka Stevens, Yumkas, Vidmar & Sweeney, LLC, was a featured speaker at the University



Janice B. Grubin



Katie Keane



Anne Vanderkamp

of Maryland School of Law's Women, Leadership & Equality ("WLE") program, which celebrated its 10th Anniversary on May 8, 2014 with a dinner and program titled "Honoring Ten Years of Rose Zetzer Fellows 2004-2014." Ms. Stevens, a member of the inaugural class of fellows, spoke on the topic of The Rose Zetzer Fellowship: Then and Now. WLE shares many of the same values as IWIRC and partnered with IWIRC in November, 2013 for the Human Trafficking program.

The Chicago Network welcomes **Anne Vanderkamp**, Mesirow Financial, as the new Vice-Chair of the Chicago Network. Anne has worked diligently on all of our Network events and has provided great leadership in her role as Treasurer of the Network. We wish her the best of luck in her new role.

Upcoming Network Activities

Thursday, September 04, 2014

Hong Kong Network

[IWIRC Hong Kong - Mid Autumn Festival Dim Sum Lunch](#)

Saturday, September 06, 2014

Virginia Network

[A Day In the Blue Ridge!](#)

Wednesday, September 10, 2014

Greater Philadelphia Network

[Read the Article. Join the Discussion. "The Confidence Gap"](#)

Wednesday, September 10, 2014

Midwest Network

[Please Join IWIRC-Midwest Network as we Tee Off in September](#)

Wednesday, September 10, 2014

New Jersey Network

[Joint NJTMA NextGen/IWIRC-NJ Beer and Food Pairing](#)

Monday, September 15, 2014

Washington DC Network

[ABI Workshop, Lunch and Networking Reception](#)

Monday, September 15, 2014

Greater Maryland Network

[Lending to Distressed Companies Workshop - Co-Sponsored event](#)

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Hong Kong Network

[The Annual IWIRC Hong Kong Great Debate](#)

Tuesday, October 07, 2014

Chicago Network

[IWIRC's 21st Annual Fall Conference](#)

Thursday, October 16, 2014

Midwest Network

[Please Join IWIRC Midwest for a Dinner in Honor of our Judges](#)

Social Media

Have you checked out or posted on our Facebook or LinkedIn pages lately? Are you following us on Twitter? If not, you are missing out! Did you recently read an interesting article? Post it! Our membership is sharing a lot of great content and updates and we'd love to hear from you.



IWIRC Contacts

For questions regarding the IWIRC Connection E-Newsletter or to submit an article for inclusion in one of our forthcoming issues, please contact the Newsletter Director, Lauren Friend McKelvey, at lmckelvey@wileyrein.com or Communications Chair, Jennifer Mercer at jmercerc@epiqsystems.com.

If you would like to:

- introduce a new member to IWIRC;
- join IWIRC; or
- volunteer to take on a leadership role within one of our committees

Please contact our administrative assistant, Kiersten Dawson, at info@iwirc.com.

Welcome IWIRC New Members!

May 21, 2014 – August 18, 2014

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Welcome IWIRC New Members!

May 21, 2014 – August 18, 2014

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