

OCTOBER 2009 NEWSLETTER

www.aabahouston.com

The Asian American Bar Association (AABA) of Houston is a voluntary organization of lawyers of Asian heritage or who have Asian American interests, dedicated to promoting diversity within the legal profession and Houston community.

THE AABA'S INAUGURAL WOMEN'S RETREAT

On Saturday, September 26, twenty-five Asian-American women attorneys gathered at the offices of Greenberg Traurig, L.L.P. for the AABA's inaugural Women's Retreat. The participants ranged from new attorneys to attorneys who have been practicing for more than twenty years and represented a variety of practice areas, law firms, and in-house legal departments. The event provided a networking opportunity for the attendees as well as an opportunity for them to discuss issues that impact their daily professional lives such as dealing with stereotypes, working with supervisors and support staff, and developing mentoring relationships. The AABA would like to thank all of the attendees for their active and enthusiastic participation in the discussions. The AABA also would like to thank Greenberg Traurig, L.L.P. for hosting the retreat, speakers Judy Lee of Foster Quan, LLP, Stephanie Song of Bracewell & Giuliani, and Cristina Rodriguez of Baker Botts, Trellis Spa for donating a door prize, and to Joyce Kao Soliman, Jenny Hyun, Audrey Chang, and Judy Liu for planning the retreat.





2009 OFFICERS

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Joyce Kao Soliman

President-Elect Porter & Hedges, L.L.P.

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Joseph D. Yao

Exxon Mobil Corporation

AABA WOMEN'S RETREAT (cont'd)







2009 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Social Committee

Cindy Lin
Curtis, Mallet-Prevost, Colt & Mosle LLP

Aaron Woo Phillips & Reiter PLLC

Mentorship and Law School Relations Committee

David S. Hsu
Law Office of David S. Hsu

Gala Committee

Miranda-Lin S. Bailey Exxon Mobil Corporation

Alice Chen Huang
Locke Lord Bissell & Liddell LLP

Corporate Counsel Committee

David N. Chang Mayer Brown LLP

Jenny Hyun
Weingarten Realty

Eunice Song Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP

Programs Committee

Judy Y. Liu VP of Programs CenterPoint Energy Service Company, LLC

Community Service and Pro Bono Committee

Alison L. Chen VP of Community Relations Andrews Kurth LLP

AABA'S FIFTH ANNUAL CORPORATE COUNSEL DINNER



NOVEMBER 4, 2009

PAPPAS BROS. STEAKHOUSE 5839 WESTHEIMER

6:00 PM - Reception 7:00 PM - Dinner

Keynote Speech By:

Edwin J. Buckingham III

Senior Executive Vice President & Regional General Counsel NAFTA Solvay North America, LLC

To RSVP, please visit <u>www.aabahouston.com</u>.

In-House Counsel: Free / Outside Counsel: \$115 (on or before 10/23/09) and \$125 (after 10/23/09).

Outside counsel interested in attending must be an AABA member in good standing. Space is limited, so sign up soon!

The AABA's Corporate Counsel Dinner is generously underwritten by Exxon Mobil Corporation and Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP.

The AABA, Houston Volunteer Lawyers Program, Organization of Chinese Americans Greater Houston Chapter, and Catholic Charities are proud to co-sponsor the

2009 NATURALIZATION AND CITIZENSHIP CLINIC

Saturday, October 19, 2009 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

MetroBank Community Center Dynasty Plaza 9600 Bellaire, Suite 201

The AABA would greatly appreciate if you could spread the word about the Clinic to family and friends who are interested in applying for naturalization. To register for the Clinic, applicants must call the Clinic's intake representative at 713-523-7852 between September 28, 2009 and October 2, 2009, between 9:00 am and 12:00 pm to reserve an appointment for the day of the Clinic.

For more information, please contact AABA President Warren Huang at whuang@fulbright.com.

OPPORTUNITIES

In-House Counsel Position

A Fortune 500 company in Dallas is looking to fill an in-house position with the following qualifications:

A minimum of eight years of corporate securities and finance practice with significant transactional experience which should include mergers and acquisitions.

Experience should also include knowledge of joint ventures and reorganizations of all sorts, as well as familiarity with bankruptcy, tax, intellectual property and other related legal areas.

Oualified candidates or inquiries should contact Wilson Chu of K&L Gates LLP at wilson.chu@klgates.com.

WLPPFP Fellowships

The Women's Law and Public Policy Fellowship Program (WLPPFP) at the Georgetown University Law Center is accepting applications for its September 2010 through August 2011 program. This fellowship focuses on a 12 month work experience, where fellows from the United States work on women's legal issues with a public interest organization, a governmental agency, or as a clinical teaching fellow at Georgetown Law. All of our fellows learn together about substantive women's rights issues, explore a multitude of career paths through which they can advocate for women's equality, and develop their legal skills through seminars, trainings, networking events and other activities provided by WLPPFP.

The application deadline for the WLPPFP is November 2, 2009. For information about the program and application process, please visit http://www.law.georgetown.edu/wlppfp/USProgram/index.html.

Criminal Justice Act Panel Attorneys

The United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas adopted a new Criminal Justice Act Plan entitled: Houston-Galveston Plan in 2006. Under this Plan, the Court has established a panel in the Houston and Galveston Divisions of approximately 100 attorneys who are eligible and willing to be appointed under the Criminal Justice Act to provide representation to defendants who cannot afford counsel.

All attorneys who would like to seek CJA appointments in Houston and Galveston must submit an application and be approved for CJA appointments. We are currently accepting applications through October 31, 2009.

Attorneys who serve on the CJA Panel must be members in good standing of the Southern District of Texas and have demonstrated experience in, and knowledge of, federal practice and procedure. We are looking for attorneys with a commitment to representing individuals who are unable to afford adequate representation in the defense of federal criminal cases both at trial and on appeal.

Rates of compensation for panel attorneys in federal criminal cases are currently set at \$110 per hour for non-capital cases and \$175 per hour for capital cases.

Applications for membership on the panel may be downloaded from the website for the Southern District of Texas, www.txs.uscourts.gov, and for the Federal Public Defender for the Southern District of Texas, www.fpdsdot.org. Hardcopy applications are also available from the Attorney Admissions Office for the United States District Court, Southern District of Texas, 515 Rusk, Houston, Texas. Applications should be submitted to the Clerk's Office for the Southern District of Texas, 515 Rusk, Houston, Texas. For more information, please feel free to contact the Federal Public Defender's office at 713-718-460.

Please note that your application does not guarantee membership. Each application is reviewed with the purpose of fulfilling the Court's statutory duty to the indigent community.

PROJECT BLUEPRINT

a blueprint for diversity in volunteer leadership

-Project Hinsprint is committed to mauring that the board hedership of our neaprofit sector reflects the rich ethnic diversity of our Houstum Community. Since its inception in 1988, Project Blagarint has programd the next generation of emerging leaders from Housten's multi-calural communities to fill key roles on boards and board committees. More than 650 well trained leaders are providing the skills, resources and diverse perspectives needed to assist nonprofit organizations in improving performance and increasing their impact in the community.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applicants for Project Bluegrint are requited community wide. The goal is to identify an altmically diverse pool of individuals who have the potential to assume headership rules in the numeralit

Candidates for the Project Binaprint program may self-sulmit, or may be recommended by colleagues or convolues. Project Binaprint alumni are encounaged to recommend againsmis, as are corporations and nonprofit organizat

The program fits is \$600.00 and is due after March 30, 2009, the and program are 5 000000 and to que size matern 30, 2000, ton applicant is notified of their acceptance into the program. The fine covers cents related to the program, including a two-day officier retreat that is designed to foster consended and team spirit among the participants. Participants are encouraged to seek corporate aponecously where appropriate.

Classes converse in early spring and conclude with a recognition commony honoring the new Project Elasgeint graduates.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Class members are observe based on order in that include: profes-sional experience, nonmunity involvement and landership potential. Bank class is decongraphically diverse in terms of age, gender, obtaining, and professional conjuntion.

A Project Bluewint Volunteer Solection Committee reviews conditate applications, conducts personal interviews with the top applicants and selects the participants.

PROGRAM COMPONENTS

Experts in all areas of nonprofit governments lend the participants through a comprehensive consistant covering an erray of topics related to board government, crisis communication, legal and framesist issues and fundaming.

Following graduation, Project Ellasprint alumni are offered volunteer placement opportunities either with United Way or other nonprofit organizations.

Project Blueprint participants enjoy these benefits:

- Leadership Training: A series of workshop sessions that provides concentrated study of issues related to nonprefit leadenhip and management;
- Tearnbuilding: A two-day remet designed to build commaderie among program participants and develop the skills that are sessatial to effective team interaction and.
- Volunteer Placement: Following completies of the program, Project Blueprint graduates are provided with placement opportunities in area scaprofits to exercise their
- > Project Blueprint Alumni: Gudasta are imputant. unhausature for the program and support the control reconstruct and selection process. They have opportunition to increase their networks and to further develop their leadership skills through a variety of workshops and Project Blueprint events.

Learn more about PROJECT BLUEPRINT

For more information, posted Karen B. White, Londontin For more uniformatic, commiss factor is, wants, locationing Development Messages at 713.685.2711 or locationing the location of the location o

- My organization would like volunteer referrals for our board and committees.
- $\hfill \square$ I would like to receive an application for participation in the next Project Hissarint class.
- ☐ I would like to nominate a condidate for the Project

Organization_ Address Zip+4____ Fax

Theret year

Project Blaquint United Way of Greater Heasten 2:O. Baz 3247 Hauston, TX 77243-3247

Project Bhaprist is a program of the United Way of Greater Houston.

A SEC

How will PROJECT BLUEPRINT benefit you?

As a Participant...

- > Strengthens your leadership and management skills
- > Provides valuable networking opportunities
- > Enhances your status as a member of a distinguished group of community leaders

-As a Nonprofit Organization...

- > Reduces time consuming tasks of locating, recruiting, and training board volunteers
- > Server as a new source of leaders who know and care shout the community
- > Offers representation that reflects the cultural diversity of the Community.

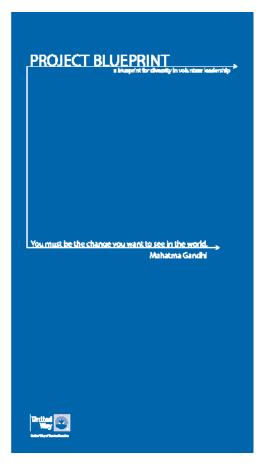
As a Corporation...

- Strengthens your company's community image and provides another evenue for community relations
- > Provides leadership and management training for your amployees
- Enhances your employees' ability to manage the cultural diversity that exists in the workplace

For More Information:

phone: 713-685-2711

web site: www.unitedwayhouston.org





Applications must be received at United Way no later than 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 15, 2009.



RICE ASIAN FILM FESTIVAL

Oct. 2 - 4, 2009 Rice Media Center, Rice University

Featuring Four Award-winning Chinese Films

ricednema.rice.edu



Sparadently, Mulichard Community Selejia at Public Affeira, Site university Ania Sudia y Teasa Cerrer Char. Cerrer fu Asian Sudien end Tépai Education de Cultural Office ir Humani.

Mayor Bill White and Andrea Ferguson White

SPONSORSHIP BENEFITS



Writers in the Schools (WITS) engages students in the pleasure and power of reading and writing. Founded in 1983 choulg the University of Housean's creative writing program, WITS sends some of our nector's most calebrad writers into industrial bearings. Today, WITS is the same's largest hereafy organization and is realized by the Tools Commission on the Aria. WITS teaches or reading writing to as disk students in schools, community content, justified to reading southers, and insophalis. One year long esidenties, WITS writers take students on a journey to discover their winh voice as any profiles. If this apperium help distillation to become flesing is a mess, citized whiters, and confidents communications. This year WITS writers will

U was born than poverty in a rural province of China during the Cultural Revolution. Acage 11 he



WRITERS IN THE SCHOOLS 25th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

PROGRAM



PO ET LAUREATE
H-E-B Tournament of Champions

Concertoins Energy Laura and John Armold Wells Fargo

Federic Cheryl Buller
Annes and Ken Culesca
Nancy and Neal Manne
GEM Insurance Agencies, LMB-cay and Sel Schrober
The Stark Near - John Hammel Scrauss

Will's Will'ER AWARDS
Conuncial Arthres
Dave Ber and Menta Smill
Nancy and Jose Ford
Herni and Joe Hahner
Lodes Lords Road & Liddel, LLBThe Caysor Foundation
HeCoff, Shellis & Williams of Totals, Inc.
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Li Cunxin, the keynote speaker, wrote "Mao's Last Dancer." The book, which was made into a movie, premiered at the Toronto Film Festival and was very well received.

> View the trailer at http://www.maoslastdancermovie.com/

ASIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ASIA SOCIETY YOUNG PROFESSIONALS CHINESE PROFESSIONAL CLUB INDO-AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

INVITES EVERYONE TO A

Golf Mixer

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2009

6 - 8PM -

BECK'S PRIME AT THE MEMORIAL PARK GOLF CENTER

Get information on the upcoming fall golf tournaments • Free golf instructions • Door prizes • Raffle tickets for great prizes • Meet new friends



DON'T PLAY GOLF? DON'T WORRY.

in make the transfer of the second world be to be a second

Driving range putting green available Great food and drinks available at Beck's Prime

For more information, contact Asian Chamber of Commerce: 713-782-7222

SIDEBAR



Lisa Wang and Matthew Wong are proud to announce the arrival of Stephanie Victoria Wong. Stephanie was born at 1:16 a.m. on September 9, 2009, weighing 6 lbs. 4 oz.

Congratulations, Lisa and Matthew!

MANY THANKS TO OUR 2009-2010 MAJOR UNDERWRITERS!

PLATINUM UNDERWRITERS

EXXON MOBIL CORPORATION GARDERE WYNNE SEWELL LLP

GOLD UNDERWRITERS

BRACEWELL & GIULIANI LLP
THE LANIER LAW FIRM

FULBRIGHT & JAWORSKI L.L.P. LOCKE LORD BISSELL & LIDDELL LLP

If you would like to publicize job opportunities, community news, or personal SIDEBAR news, please contact AABA Secretary Sherry Scott at sscott1812@live.com.

COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

October 3, 2009 / 2009 Houston Korean Festival, Houston Community College, Spring Branch

The Korean American Society of Houston is proud to announce the 2009 Houston Korean Festival. Celebrated on Saturday, Oct. 3, which is both Chuseok (Korean Thanksgiving) and Korean Foundation Day, this event will showcase the taste of Korean food and cultural performances including Gayakeum (traditional string instrument) performance; Nong Ak (farmers dance in costume); women's folk dance in costume; children's traditional dance in costume; and TaeKwonDo (Korean martial arts) demonstration. Admission is free, and there will be a free sampling of Korean food. Please join us in celebrating and experiencing the Korean culture! Saturday, October 3, 2009 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Houston Community College, Spring Branch campus, 1010 W. Sam Houston Pkwy N. (I-10 and Beltway 8) Houston, TX 77043. For more information, please go to www.KoreanFestivalHouston.com.

October 18-21, 2009 / Association of Corporate Counsel 2009 Annual Meeting; Boston, Massachusetts

ACC's 2009 Annual Meeting is the one event where you can get the insight you need to push beyond today's challenges. Join the ACC in Boston, October 18-21, 2009 at the Hynes Convention Center, for another exciting and informative program full of networking, CLE and other valuable information. Register by September 10th to receive discounted registration fees. For more information or to register, go to http://am.acc.com.

$\underline{\text{October 27, 2009}}$ / Asian Chamber of Commerce Annual Golf Tournament, Longwood Golf Course, Cypress, Texas

The Asian Chamber of Commerce of Houston and Scholarship Foundation invite you to its 2009 Annual Golf Tournament on October 27, 2009 at Longwood Golf Course, 13300 Longwood Trace, Cypress, Texas 77429. Registration begins at 12:30 p.m. with a shotgun start at 1:30 p.m. Sponsorships and individual player tickets are available. For more information and to download a registration form, please go to http://www.asianchamber-hou.org/2009-Golf/2009-ACC-Golf.pdf.

October 28, 2009 / AWA 2009 Judicial Reception, River Oaks Country Club, Houston, Texas

The Association of Women Attorneys will hold its annual Judicial Reception on October 28, 2009, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the River Oaks Country Club, 1600 River Oaks Blvd., Houston, Texas 77019. All judges of the Harris County Civil District Courts and Federal District Courts for the Southern District of Texas, Houston Division, will be honored. The reception provides an excellent opportunity for practitioners to meet and visit with the judges and their teams. We expect a great turnout this year and hope you will join us. The tickets are \$65 per person in advance for non-AWA members and \$75 per person at the door. Sponsorship opportunities are also available. If you are interested in purchasing tickets or sponsoring this event, please contact AWA Judicial Reception Committee Co-Chairs Sofia Adrogue (713-986-7110 or sadrogue@lrmlaw.com) or S. Shawn Stephens (713-646-1398 or sstephens@bakerlaw.com).

October 28-30, 2009 / ABA Fall Minority Counsel Program, San Francisco, California

The ABA's Minority Counsel Program continues to promote diversity in the legal profession through education and by building relationships between corporations and lawyers who are racially and ethnically diverse. The program meets twice a year bringing together in-house lawyers and potential outside counsel for an array of CLE Programming, Professional Workshops, Roundtable Discussion and Networking Events as well as elite programs. We look forward to seeing you at the upcoming program, which will be held at the Hyatt Regency Embarcadero Center, 5 Embarcadero Center, San Francisco, CA 94111. For more information, and to register, please visit http://new.abanet.org/calendar/dv1009-2009-minority-counsel-fall-program/Pages/default.aspx.

Get to Know an AABA Member!



Tina H. Nguyen

Law Offices of Tina H. Nguyen

If I weren't an attorney, I would be . . . a professional gift wrapper. (so much work for little pay is very rewarding when the end result makes everyone happy).

My favorite (or fantasy) vacation is... Las Vegas on a white sand beach.

The best dessert (or other food) in the world is . . . I am a sweet gal, but generally not into sweets. Any food straight from the sea to my belly in less than 12 hours is amazing!

In my spare time, I enjoy... traveling and/or hanging out with friends and family.

In my iPod (or other mp3 device) you will find . . . nothing, I don't own an iPod or mp3, but on my "copyrighted" aka burned CDs are Shania, Faith, Carrie, Beyonce, Rihanna, and Britney (is there a theme here?).

My favorite movies are . . . love stories, some action, anything with a plot that makes me reflect/think/laugh/cry...Heat, Beaches, Pulp Fiction, and more recent Hangover.

The best restaurant in Houston is ... tough one, I will have to defer, but anything Vietnamese or seafood.

My favorite place in Houston is ... my office chair (daytime), my bed (nighttime), and anything inside the Loop (all other times).

The sports team(s) I root for is/are... my alma maters, the University of Texas and the Houston Coogs (if they win big sometimes, and they are now!).

If I won the lottery, I would... buy more lottery tickets, create a pro bono immigration clinic in memory of my mentor, Joe Vail, and take care of my #1 mom.

I recommend reading... the Texas Bar Journal's Disciplinary Actions (what not to do) and Memorials (leaving a legacy).

Most AABA members probably don't know that I... am a human navigation system. Been thinking about legally changing my name to T-Star! My ad slogan would be "T-Star, let her navigate you through the legal system!"

You forgot to ask me about... Why am I still single?

THE AABA WELCOMES THE FOLLOWING NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS!

Matthew Kitcharoen

South Texas College of Law

Jenny Mai

Baylor University School of Law

Chen Liu

South Texas College of Law

Deeda Clarissa Salazar

Thurgood Marshall School of Law

If you haven't already applied for membership to the AABA, then you are missing out on all the benefits of membership. Members of the AABA receive significant discounts to all AABA events, as well as invitations to exclusive members-only seminars and programs such as the annual Corporate Counsel Dinner and inclusion in the Attorney Profiles Directory. Become an AABA member today, and gain access to all of the networking, career enhancement, mentorship, and volunteer opportunities and resources that the AABA has to offer! You may apply for membership on-line at www.aabahouston.com or by completing and submitting the attached form and dues.

Another terrific benefit of AABA membership is automatic membership in the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association ("NAPABA"). AABA members can take advantage of NAPABA's benefits, such as the one below offered by Mercedes-Benz.



NAPABA members are now eligible for special pricing on the purchase or lease of Mercedes-Benz vehicles

Visit our website www.napaba.org for more information



Asian American Bar Association of Houston 2009-2010 Membership Application/Renewal

□ \$0 □ \$25	Law Student • Retired Attorney Attorney with less than 3 years in practice • In-House or Non-Profit Counsel • Solo Practitioner •	
□ \$50 □ \$75	Auxiliary Member* Attorney with 3 to 8 years in practice • Judge • Government Attorney Attorney with 8+ years in practice	
Bar Number and Jurisdiction		
Last Name		First Name
Employer		
Address		
City		State ZIP
Office #		Home #
Fax #		E-Mail
Area(s) of Practice		
Law School and Graduation Year		Language(s)
How would you like to receive the AABA Newsletter? □ E-Mail □ Fax		
Would you like your business contact information published in the AABA Online Directory? ☐ Yes ☐ No		
Please give us any comments or programming suggestions you might have:		
Please indicate any committees on which you would be interested in serving:		
☐ Gala ☐ Fundraising ☐ Programs ☐ Social/Networking ☐ Communications		
☐ Community Relations/Pro Bono ☐ Corporate Counsel ☐ Mentorship/Law School Relations		
Make checks payable to AABA and submit application and fee to:		

AABA Attn: Membership P.O. Box 1554 Houston, TX 77251

Send any inquiries concerning AABA membership to membership@aabahouston.com, or contact Audrey Chang at (713) 374-3537.

*Auxiliary membership is open to attorneys who neither reside nor practice in the Greater Houston area.