



APABA-MD TODAY

The newsletter of the Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Maryland Fall 2004

Law scholarship fundraiser set for November

Mark your calendars for the Asian Pacific Bar Association's law scholarship fundraiser reception to benefit students at the University of Baltimore and the University of Maryland.

The fundraiser is scheduled for Thursday, November 4, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Poe's inside the University of Baltimore law school. The event will feature a keynote speech from the Honorable Robert M. Bell, Chief Judge of the Maryland Court of Appeals, and an award presentation to Baltimore City District Court Judge Jeannie Hong.

Proceeds will go to a scholarship fund for law students who contribute to the Asian American community. The goal is to award at least one scholarship to a law student at each of Maryland's two law schools. The actual number and size of the scholarships will depend on the amount of money raised.

What can you do? First, you can make sure that you register for the event. We also hope that you will encourage your friends, your firm, and others to support this worthwhile event.

The event is \$30 for members who **pre-register by Oct. 27** or \$40 at the door. The cost for non-members is \$50, which includes a one-year membership to APABA-MD. The event is free for law students and faculty. In addition, APABA is seeking individual corporate sponsorships: \$500 to be a Platinum sponsor, \$250 to be a Diamond Sponsor, and \$150 to be a Gold Sponsor.

Nearly 100% of your donation will go directly to the scholarship fund. Our goal is to make this an annual event.

For more information, contact APABA-MD President Catherine Hester at 443-263-8142 or clchester@comcast.net.

APABA members needed for judicial selection committee

Your help is needed to interview judicial candidates for court vacancies in Maryland.

APABA-MD members recently interviewed candidates for the Court of Special Appeals (Montgomery County judicial district). The next interview is for a judicial appointment to the District Court for Charles County.

APABA-MD would like to have four to five members to do the interviews. Jeannie Cho is helping to set up the interviews and is asking judicial candidates to forward their applications to APABA-MD. The copies will then be distributed prior to the interviews.

Those who are interested in participating should contact President Catherine Hester at 443-263-8142 or clchester@comcast.net.

Meet the 2004-2005 APABA-MD board

President: Catherine Chen Hester

Catherine was born in Taipei, Taiwan, and she immigrated to the United States when she was nine. Catherine was an undergraduate at the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA), and attended law school at Southwestern University School of Law in Los Angeles. She earned her J.D. in 1984 and was a member of the Moot Court Honors Program.

Catherine currently works for the Office of the State's Attorney for Baltimore City, where she is in the Juvenile Division.

In her free time, Catherine is devoted to her husband Kevin and their teenage children. She is also an accomplished classical pianist, loves ethnic cooking, gardening, and traveling.

Vice President: Ron Lapid

Ron Lapid, the current Vice-President, did not attend law school in the State of Maryland or take the Maryland Bar Exam. Ron's parents

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Meet the board, continued

came to the United States from the Philippines in the late 1960s. The son of a retired Navy officer, Ron moved around a lot as a child, living as far north as Groton, Connecticut, and as far south as Charleston, South Carolina.

He attended Duke University in Durham, North Carolina (1990-94) and Washington University School of Law in St. Louis, Missouri (1994-97).

Ron currently serves as an Appellate Counsel at the Office of the Principal Legal Advisor of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), an agency of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. His practice primarily focuses on immigration and international refugee law, but he has also been involved in customs-related work.

Ron is an avid sports fan, and as a former Cameron Crazy, he is just nuts about Duke basketball. When he is not working or watching sports, Ron likes to draw, read, or indulge his addiction to Japanese anime.

Treasurer: John Park

John was born in South Korea but has lived in Maryland most of his life, attending public schools. He went to College Park and majored in government and politics with a minor in music performance. He then got his law degree from the University of Maryland law school, but he takes more pride in meeting his wife Charlene at the school.

Upon graduation, he worked at the firm of Arnold and Porter in Washington, D.C. A couple of years ago, he joined the Baltimore City State's Attorney's Office. He currently prosecutes defendants in the Narcotics Division.

John and Charlene enjoy family time with their 20-month-old daughter Evy. He loves playing basketball and acoustic guitar whenever he can.

University of Maryland Student Representative: Pooja Adhikary

Pooja is a 3L at the University of Maryland School of Law, and is looking forward to settling in the area. This summer Pooja was a law clerk at the National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium (NAPALC) in Washington, DC. Among other projects and assignments at NAPALC, Pooja prepared a resource guide on accessing the judicial system for individuals with limited proficiency in English, available in print and NAPALC's website by late Fall.

University of Baltimore Student Representative: Sarah Duran

Sarah is a 3L at the University of Baltimore law school and is Articles Editor for UB's Law Review. Last summer she was a law clerk in the General Counsel's Office of National Public Radio, Inc., in Washington, DC.

Before law school, she worked as a journalist at newspapers in Washington State, New York, Florida, California, and Colorado. She grew up in southern California and earned an undergraduate degree in history from Occidental College in Los Angeles.

Sarah is married to Neal Pattison and has a border collie named Kody.

Member News

Choi heads to NAPALC

Having concluded her judicial clerkship with the Hon. Dennis M. Sweeney of the Circuit Court for Howard County, Juliet Choi will be heading to the National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium (NAPALC) as the newly selected NAPABA Partners Community Law Fellow for a two-year civil rights fellowship.

Under the broader umbrella of language rights/access, Juliet's litigation and policy work will focus on two areas - healthcare and access to the courts and legal services. Her upcoming presentations later this year will include appearing before groups such as the NYU Medical Center, Diversity Rx, and the National Legal Aid and Defenders Association.

Chinese Law Professor visiting UB

The University of Baltimore is hosting visiting Professor Wang Qian (Lily) from Shanghai University for the next three months. She will be studying intellectual property law until early January.

Prof. Wang earned her B.A. at a teacher's college in Anhui Province, and received an LL.B. at Fudan University, one of China's best law schools, in 1999. She has been teaching law in English at Shanghai University since then, while taking postgraduate courses in intellectual property law. She has published two scholarly papers: "On the Cultural Differences of China's International Investment Law" and "On Bilingual Teaching."

Prof. Wang will be living with a member of the UB faculty.

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION OF MARYLAND

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM (2005)

Thank YOU for making 2004 an amazing year for APABA-MD – without your support, our stellar programs would not have been possible.

Program highlights in 2004~

- ☉ Potluck dinner at Catherine's home with Delegate Susan Lee (D-Montgomery Co.) ~ 01/04
- ☉ Forum on Minority Women in the legal field at the University of Baltimore School of Law ~ 02/04
- ☉ Career Panel at the University of Maryland School of Law ~ 03/04
- ☉ Discussion about the 50th anniversary of *Brown v. Board of Education* and its impact on the Asian American community led by John Yang, President of NAPABA ~ 05/04
- ☉ Community forum at Bethel Presbyterian Church in Gaithersburg. Panelists were John Ki, Ron Lapid and the Honorable Brian Kim ~ 05/04
- ☉ Interviewed two District Court judges from Montgomery County for vacancies in Circuit Court for Montgomery County ~ 06/04

Please help us make this upcoming year even better! Your contributions keep our organization going ~ PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP WITH APABA-MD. If you are a new member, NOW is a great time to join!

APABA-MD ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 2005* *** DUE DATE: DECEMBER 31, 2004**

APABA-MD is the Maryland affiliate of the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA), which receives a portion of your dues. Your membership in APABA-MD automatically includes membership in NAPABA. Both APABA-MD and NAPABA are 501(c)(6) organizations.



Please send your payments to:

APABA-MD
C/O John Park, Esq.
Baltimore, MD 21201
1628 Norfolk Ave.
Laurel, MD 20723



Required Dues:

- ~ \$5 for law students/judicial clerks
- ~ \$35 for lawyers who have practiced less than seven (7) years
- ~ \$50 for lawyers who have practiced seven (7) years or more
- ~ Additional voluntary contributions to APABA-MD
Sustaining Member - \$250 (each year)
Law Student Scholarship contribution

Total Contributions: \$ _____

NAME: _____
POSITION/TITLE: _____
EMPLOYER: _____
AREA OF PRACTICE: _____
COUNT(IES) OF PRACTICE: _____
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Are you interested in volunteering on any of the following committees to make APABA-MD a fantastic organization?
(Please indicate your choices)

- Judicial Selections
- Public Relations
- Legislative Matters
- Mentoring/Scholarship
- Other Area(s) _____

Judge Kim visits Korea

By Judge Brian Kim, District Court of Maryland, Montgomery County

In June of this year, I was fortunate to take a trip to Korea. While there I had the opportunity to give a lecture at the Hanyang University Law School about the American judicial system. While the Korean judicial system is different than the American system, what I noticed was that Korean law students are very much like their American counterparts. The questions I received from the Korean law students ranged from court procedures to lawyer salaries. The students were also very interested in the appointment process of a judge in Maryland; judges in Korea are selected very differently. In Korea, law students elect during law school whether they wish to pursue a judicial career or a career as a lawyer (prosecutor or private attorney). Accordingly, a new law school graduate can be a judge

immediately upon passing the national bar examination.

The Korean law students were very interested in the American judicial selection process, and recognized the value in our appointment process.

After the lecture, I had the privilege of meeting with the dean of the law school as well as the president of the university and was provided a tour of the law school.

All in all, the visit to the Hanyang University Law School was enlightening to me as well to the participants of the lecture. I hope to repeat the trip in the future.

