

TOM HOMANN LAW ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

San Diego's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgender Bar
"Championing equal rights through education, advocacy and fellowship"

Volume 10, Issue 8

October 2002



Co-President's Column

VISION

By Ted Roberts



In recent meetings, I have been very impressed by the breadth and variety of programs sponsored by some of the other legal associations in San Diego. Some of these organizations invest considerable time in effort in providing legal education and services to their core constituencies, including legal clinics, crash courses in basic areas of the law, referrals, scholarships, mentorships and advocacy.

Surely similar needs exist within our community, and I believe that Tom Homann Law Association has the talent to respond to these needs – evidence of that has been seen recently in the establishment of the mentoring program (which we anticipate kicking into high gear very shortly) and increased activity in the area of recommendations and endorsements of candidates

for the board of the San Diego County Bar Association and other elected or appointed public offices. However, it seems that much of THLA's activity is focuses on its social activities, as perhaps originally envisioned.

"What kind of organization would you like to see THLA become? "

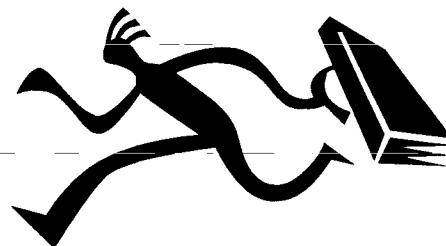
That brings us as an organization to a cross roads of sorts, raising significant issues about the focus and direction of THLA that can only be effectively addressed by the members.

My question then, to each of

you, is this: What kind of organization would you like to see THLA become? Shall we stick to sponsoring fabulous parties, with the occasional amicus brief or letter of endorsement, or shall we begin to systematically and programmatically address broader legal issues that affect our community?

I won't tell you my own preference for now, but I hope that individual members will ponder this issue and weigh in with their opinion. Send your thoughts to thlanewsltr@aol.com.

In the meantime, I hope that you will all plan to join us for the Fall Law Student Reception on Thursday, October 10th at the California Western School of Law Courtyard.



October 2002

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Schedule of Events

Thursday, October 10, 2002:
Law Student Reception
 Cal Western School of Law
 Courtyard
 5:45 p.m. to ??

Thursday, November 7, 2002:
Board Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
MCLE: Insurance Coverage, 6:30 p.m.
 CAL WESTERN Law School

Friday, November 15, 2002:
Lawyers Club Monte Carlo Night
 To benefit the SDVLP
 For more info/tickets, call: 619-544-1478



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 Event/Meeting Planner
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THLA COMMITTEE CHAIRS

CO-PRESIDENTS

- ANDREA M. KIMBALL.....619/236-1414
- TED ROBERTS.....619/699-5111

SECRETARY

- RANDY CLARK.....619/699-5084

TREASURER

- GARY HOLT.....

AMICUS

- DARIN WESSEL.....619/515-1155

ANNUAL DINNER

- TED ROBERTS.....619/699-5111

LAW SCHOOL LIAISONS

- BARBARA COX.....619/525-1413
- CALIFORNIA WESTERN SCHOOL OF LAW
- STEVE HARTWELL.....619/260-2353
- UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO
- BRYAN WILDENTHAL.....619/297-9700
- THOMAS JEFFERSON SCHOOL OF LAW

LAW STUDENT LIAISONS

- DAVE SHERMAN.....619-295-0665
- F. SUNITA FOOTE (TJSL).....619/644-2516
- MARY FICKEL (CWSL).....619/284-2990
- BRIAN MURPHY (USD).....619/234-5488

MEMBERSHIP

- ANDREA M. KIMBALL.....619/236-1414

MONTHLY PROGRAMS

- DREW WOODMANSEE

NEWSLETTER

- JUSTI RAE MILLER.....619/229-2064

PUBLIC RELATIONS

- VACANT.....

SOCIAL

- VACANT.....

WEBMASTER

- GREG CHOAT.....ZHPAGE@HOTMAIL.COM

BALBOA PARK FOR ALL RALLY TO OPPOSE BOY SCOUTS' DISCRIMINATION OF GAY YOUTH

Please join the San Diego Democratic Club and Scouting for All activists for the 3rd Annual Scouting for All Rally at Balboa Park. For the third year in a row, San Diegans are sponsoring a rally in conjunction with Scouting for All rallies being set nationwide during the week second week of October. Communities across the nation will come together to protest the Boy Scouts' discrimination of youth, parents and employees, based upon sexual orientation and religion and to give support to our nation's gay Scouts and gay youth.

As you know, the Boy Scouts have explicit policies prohibiting the participation of youth and adults who are gay or questioning, youth whose parents are gay or lesbian, as well as youth who do not profess to strong religious beliefs. Last December, the San Diego City Council renewed the local Boy Scout's lease for an additional 25 years, despite the Human Dignity Ordinance that prohibits the city from doing business with organizations that discriminate. The local Boy Scouts' Desert Pacific Council holds a \$1 per year lease on 18.5 acres of prime parkland in Balboa Park. Through this lucrative lease arrangement, the City of San Diego subsidizes the Scouts.

Details of the Sunday, October 13th Rally are as follows:

WHO: Community leaders, including youth and former Scouts opposing the Boy Scouts' discriminatory policies

WHAT: Balboa Park for All/Scouting for All Rally

WHEN: Sunday, October 13th, 2002 from 11:00am to 12:30pm

WHERE: Boy Scout Council Headquarters, 1207 Upas Street - North End of Balboa Park

Members of the Balboa Park for All coalition include the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), the Public Policy Department of the Lesbian and Gay Men's Community Center, PFLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays), the San Diego Democratic Club, Scouting for All, and youth groups promoting tolerance and equality.

For more information, contact Alex Sachs at legislativeadvocate@sddemoclub.org or Sherry Wright at the Center at 619/692-2077 ext. 121.

LAVENDER LAW 2002 Philadelphia

Run quick to register or miss Lavender Law® 2002, the annual conference presented by the National Lesbian and Gay Law Association (NLGLA) and the National Lesbian and Gay Law Foundation (NLGLF). This year's conference will be in Philadelphia, at the Loews Philadelphia Hotel, from October 10-13.

This year's conference features dozens of panels, symposia, courses and full plenary sessions on cutting-edge legal issues affecting LGBT individuals and the community. The Lavender Law® Programming Committee has invited the country's leading lawyers to head discussions and strategy sessions on practical litigation skills, same-sex custody challenges, will drafting and estate planning, employment discrimination, workplace diversity, domestic violence, transgender issues, career development, LGBT in academia, civil rights, HIV and AIDS, immigration law, the military, legislation updates, family law, LGBT youth and much more!

Confirmed Panelists include Evan Wolfson of the Freedom to Marry Project; U.S. District Judge Anita B. Brody of the Eastern District of Pennsylvania; Yale Law Professor William Eskridge; Shannon Minter of the National Center for Lesbian Rights; Matt Coles of the ACLU; Ruth Harlow and David Buckel of Lambda Legal; Sharra Greer of the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network; along with dozens of other practicing lawyers.

Numerous opportunities for Continuing Legal Education (CLE) credits are available at Lavender Law®. Most sessions are CLE-eligible, and accreditation will be requested from all states which require continuing legal education.

And for the first time, Lavender Law® will be hosting a Career Fair, an exciting opportunity to network and obtain jobs as attorneys and summer associates/interns with employers from Boston, Chicago, New York, Philadelphia, Washington D.C., and the surrounding areas.

Registration begins at noon on Thursday, Oct. 10, with a full roster of breakout panels scheduled for that afternoon. Political satirist Kate Clinton will offer a keynote speech at the opening night reception Thursday evening.

And although the conference officially ends on Saturday, you might want to stay through Sunday to attend Philadelphia's annual OUTFest block party. We'll be holding a Farewell Brunch on Sunday at the Hardrock Cafe across the street from the conference hotel for those who stay.

To request a conference brochure and registration form, visit the Internet Web site at www.lavenderlaw.org or send an email with your name and address to: Lavlaw2002@aol.com

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT JOB ANNOUNCEMENT JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Corporate Counsel – Chula Vista *** American Water Works Company**

Responsibilities: Responsible for providing legal counsel and guidance and the management of legal affairs for the operating companies. Responsible for organization, filings, notices, etc. for Board Meetings.

Qualifications: Broad knowledge of Corporate law and working knowledge of Company contracts, policies and operations. Knowledge of legal aspects of relations with government agencies and legislation affecting water utilities. Strong verbal and written communication skills (e.g. presentation, fluency. report writing); strong interpersonal skills (e.g. persuasion, negotiation, cooperation, diplomacy); strong planning, organization and coordinating skills; strong internal consulting skills (e.g. technical, analytical). Ten (10) to fifteen (15) years experience.

Law Degree and License to practice law preferred.

CPUC experience preferred

Local candidates only need apply

Contact: Jerry Bailey, Director of HR

American Water Works Company

303 H. Street, Suite 120

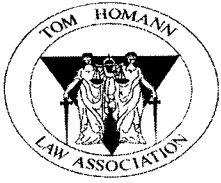
Chula Vista, CA 91910

No phone calls please.

HRC State Update *HRC State Update* HRC State Update

California became the largest state in the country to recognize domestic partners' inheritance rights on Sept. 10, as Democratic Gov. Gray Davis signed Assembly Bill 2216. Keith Bradkowski, 11-year partner of Jeff Collman who died in the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, championed the measure. It will provide registered domestic partners with the same right as surviving spouses to inherit a partner's property if the partner dies without a will. California joins only Hawaii and Vermont in recognizing these rights. Davis also signed Assembly Bill 2777 into law on Sept. 4. The measure allows three counties -- Los Angeles, Marin and Santa Barbara -- to extend death benefits, optional retirement allowances or survivor's allowances to the surviving domestic partners of county employees. The boards of supervisors of all three counties requested the ability to grant death benefits to domestic partners, which previously had been granted only to San Francisco and San Mateo counties. HRC worked with the California Alliance for Pride and Equality to mobilize grassroots support for these bills.

For more information, visit the group's website: www.calcape.org



Tom Homann Law Association
1010 University Avenue, #137
San Diego CA 92103

THLA ENDORSES THREE CANDIDATES FOR SAN DIEGO COUNTY BAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

The three candidates that THLA has (to date) voted to endorse include: Jill Burkhardt, Alisa Shorago and Andrew Albert.

Jill Burkhardt is an assistant U.S. Attorney and former president of Lawyers Club.

Alisa Shorago is a solo practitioner doing state appellate defense work.

Andrew Albert is a partner in the law firm of Boudreau, Albert & Wohlfiel and has been active in the Consumer Attorneys of San Diego for fifteen years.

Please vote in the upcoming Bar election and make THLA's voice heard!