



TouchLine

A Monthly Publication of The Women's Roundtable

March 2011

March 10

Current Issues in Eldercare
James R. Steadman, Esquire
Certified Elderlaw Attorney

6:00 p.m. Social • 6:30 p.m. Dinner/Program
Colony Pub & Grille

2670 West 8th Street • Erie

Members @ \$22.00 • Guests @ \$28.00

RSVP by no later than March 3

Attorney Steadman of Steadman Law Offices in Girard will explain the troublesome issues with respect to current eligibility for medical assistance benefits for senior citizens. Whether you're a child of a senior citizen, are married to one, or are actually getting older yourself, it's helpful to understand the basic concepts and regulations which have to be met to qualify for care.

You'll find that the law isn't as clear as you think it is, that there are ways of protecting assets, and that it's never too early to plan.

Be sure to mark your calendar and reserve your seat for this important program! We hope to see you then!



RESERVATIONS REQUIRED by MARCH 3.

Payment must be made in advance. Go to www.wrterie.org (News & Events tab) and choose your prepayment method (i.e., via PayPal or via check mailed to WRT, P.O. Box 3922, Erie, PA 16508). If you prefer to pay via check, you will need to fill out the RSVP Online form under the News & Events tab. If you have any questions, please call **Hospitality Director Diane Wilson** at 1-866-346-3122 (NOTE: You must dial the "1" first!) or email her at wilsondiane@asburyliving.net.

Note: If you make a reservation, are unable to attend, and do not cancel within 48 hours of the event, you will be responsible for any costs incurred.

GROWTH

EXCELLENCE

MOTIVATION

STRENGTH

Visit us online at
www.wrterie.org

A Message From The President

"Spring is when you feel like whistling even with a shoe full of slush."

Doug Larson, Women's Day Magazine (4/1/2007)

I sure do feel like whistling! The Women's Roundtable is starting to really see the growth from fresh ideas and a Board that is willing to work very diligently at implementing them.

The increased focus on marketing the WRT has brought about bright and hopeful growth in our membership. Each new member is like a daffodil bringing promise to our future. Our long-term members are like the spring sun encouraging this growth with warmth and a welcoming spirit.

And the future is even brighter as we look forward to showcasing the WRT at the WILD Conference on March 25th at the Bayfront Convention Center! Hope to see YOU there!

Come share in this growth and help us continue to grow!

Gay Marie Catania

Nomination Deadline Fast Approaching

The deadline for accepting nominations for our 24th Annual Woman of the Year is **Monday, February 28!**

If you know of a woman who has made a difference in the lives of women in our area, please take the time to nominate her. You can easily download a nomination form at www.wrterie.org (Woman of the Year tab). If you have any questions, please call Chair **Kim Stucke** at 878-2170.



We are absolutely thrilled to announce that we have a few more new members to introduce to you this month! *Welcome to the Club, ladies!*

Laurie Root, Vice President, Major Gifts & Planned Giving at United Way of Erie County. She volunteers with the USO and enjoys running and reading in her leisure time.

Roberta McCall. She volunteers with local walk-a-thons for various causes and creek clean-ups. In her spare time, she enjoys the opera, movies, plays, and listening to live jazz and/or blues music.

Gera Ruhland, Marketing & Sales Consultant at Jet-TV. Gera volunteers her time with the American Cancer Society and Sarah Reed Children's Center, and enjoys golf, trap shooting, roller blading, reading and traveling.

Be sure to invite a friend or colleague to join you at a WRT event. For membership information, call Membership Director **Theresa Power-Natale** at 833-4763 or visit our website at www.wrterie.org.

Happy Birthday, Ladies!

Belated wishes to:

Tabitha Bemiss 2/23

And Happy Birthday this month to:

Valerie Baltzer 3/07

Marilyn Livosky 3/17

Susan Hegel 3/19

Stephanie Domitrovich 3.20

Kristin Mooney 3/21

Amber Shenk 3/26



With Deepest Sympathy



Thoughts and prayers to **Debbie Trocki** and her husband, **Tom**, on the passing of his sister, **Theresa Byrd**, on December 29. Our sympathies to **Kim Stucke** and partner, **Terry Witherow**, on the passing of his aunt, **Ruth "Annie" Lamb**, on January 31. Sincere blessings to **Valerie Baltzer** on the passing of her mother, **Geraldine Baltzer**, on February 8.

TidBits ...

Anita DiVecchio, owner of Anita New Look, has opened a new wig salon at 2402 Cherry Street in Erie. She's accepting new clients (by appointment only). She had a nice write-up in the Erie Times-News' HER Times in January.

Kristin Mooney, an interior designer at Interiors of Erie, had a nice write-up in the Erie Times-News People section last month about her upcoming wedding. She and **Matthew Smock** will be exchanging vows on May 28 at Goodell Gardens in Edinboro.

Tami Petricelli, Volunteer Services Coordinator at Highmark Caring Place, has obtained her CT Credentials in Thanatology, which is a professional certification earned through the Association for Death Education and Counseling.

WE NEED YOU

President-Elect **Diane DeLuca-Thompson** is in the process of forming her board for the 2011-2012 season ... *our 25th Anniversary!*

Although some members of our existing board have agreed to continue on next year, we are still in need of some help. The following positions are currently open:

- President-Elect
- Secretary
- Programs
- Newsletter
- Webmaster
- Woman of the Year

Remember, our board of directors is what fuels WRT. If you can help, please call or email Diane at 866-6909 or agencyal@neo.rr.com. We appreciate your consideration!

Women For Women Champagne Brunch

The Erie Branch of AAUW (American Association of University Women) will highlight and honor local women entrepreneurs at their **April 9** brunch at the Kahkwa Club beginning at 10:30 a.m. The purpose for the event is to raise funds for women and girls. They will be awarding \$5,000 to local women (non-traditional students) who have returned to post-secondary education. There will also be a live auction and ticket sale raffle. They still have a few openings for vendors (woman-owned businesses) to display a centerpiece donation. For more information on the vendor donations, contact **Marilyn Walker** at 833-2604. To attend the festivities, call **Barbara Hutzelman** at 833-6870.



Newsletter Information

If you have any news or information you'd like to share with members and friends of WRT, forward to **D. DeLuca-Thompson**, via email at agencyal@neo.rr.com or fax to 866-6911.

Upcoming Women's Roundtable Events

New Location!

APRIL 7

Woman of the Year
COMMUNITY RECEPTION
6-8:00 p.m.*

Ambassador Conference Ctr./Hemingway Ballroom
*5-6:00 p.m. VIP Member-Only Reception

MAY 18

Woman of the Year
AWARDS BANQUET
6:00 p.m. Cash Bar

7:00 p.m. Dinner/Program
Bel-Aire Clarion Hotel



MARCH 22

6:30 p.m. Social

7:00 p.m. Program/Workshop

*** Create a Fused-Glass Suncatcher ***

CENTER CITY ARTS

138 East 26th Street • Erie

RSVP required by March 18



Losing oneself in the creative process is a great way to shed our wintertime blues. You're invited to a unique and fun event ... **Lee Steadman**, director of Center City Arts and a nationally-acclaimed watercolor artist, will lead us in a workshop to create a fused-glass suncatcher of spring flowers ... a perfect gift for yourself or someone else!

Center City Arts is a new Erie art space located in the historic Rose Koehler Curtze Mansion. The recently renovated Carriage House Studio is a great place to spend a few hours making art alone or with a friend. Affiliated with Stairways Behavioral Health, this charming building and grounds promote the mental wellness of the entire community.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT * MARCH MADNESS MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

In conjunction with The Women's Roundtable exhibiting at the WILD Conference this month, we are extending a SPECIAL RATE for any new member that joins during the month of March ... *a reduced fee of only \$75 (a \$15 savings)! The perfect time to grab a girlfriend!*

This is a one-time first-year reduced fee that still includes the Woman of the Year Banquet. After the first year, the annual dues would then be \$90 as usual. If you or someone you know is interested in learning more, contact Membership Director **Theresa Power-Natale** at 833-4763 or email her at theresapower-natale@roadrunner.com.

WEBSITE ADVERTISING AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS

WRT is offering its members the opportunity to place a business card-size ad on our website with a link to your website, if desired. The cost is only \$20/year. *You can't beat it!*

If you're interested, please call or email Webmaster **Kristin Mooney** at 397-7973 or KRM158@yahoo.com.

JUST FOR WOMEN ...

WOMEN'S HISTORY DINNER
Our History is Our Strength

Monday, March 7

Erie Maennerchor Club
5:30 p.m. Social/Networking
6:30 p.m. Dinner/Program

Sponsored by the Council of Women's Organizations. Cost is \$25. Send payment made payable to CWO to Mary Anne Little, 5426 Lakeshore Drive, Erie, PA 16505.

CWO is seeking sponsorships for the event, as well. For more information, call 833-9082.

4th Annual

W.I.L.D. Conference

Friday, March 25

7:45 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Bayfront Convention Center

ENTREPRENEUSHIP: Bill Rancic, founder of the multi-million dollar internet company, Cigars around the World. Rancic is the original Apprentice.

LEADERSHIP: Connie Podesta, a guaranteed dynamic motivational and inspirational speaker. She is an author, therapist and human behavior expert.

WELLNESS: Jan McInnis, "The Work Lady," brings humor to the corporate world through family and lifetime anecdotes. She educates with practical tips on the importance of humor in your life.

TICKET PRICES

Through March 11 @ \$150.00

March 12 - March 25 @ \$200.00

Make your reservations today at www.gannon.edu/sbdcgannon/events or call 871-7232 for more information.

Purse 'n Pearl Luncheon

Tuesday, May 24

Jane Hight McMurry
Keynote Speaker
Bayfront Convention Center

Quote of The Month

"Four be the things I am wiser to know: Idleness, sorrow, a friend and a foe."

Dorothy Parker

The Women's Roundtable Membership

Valerie Baltzer ♦

The Honorable Susan P. Baxter ●
 Tabitha Jones Bemiss
 Brenda Bennett
 Pamela Biroshak

April Blum ♦

Sheryl Bruinsma ♦

Delores Catalde
 Gay Marie Catania ❖☎
 Dorothy Christoph ●
 Eileen Cullen, D.Ed.
 Mary Ellen Dahlkemper
 Diane DeLuca-Thompson ⌘☎☎
 Elsie Dickson
 Janice DiLuzio
 Anita Marie DiVecchio
 The Honorable Stephanie Domitrovich ●
 Veronica Dunn
 Haley Figurski
 Audrey Gallagher
 Mary Graziano
 Linda Hackshaw
 Nadia Havard
 Sue Hawley ☎
 Susan Hegel, Ph.D.

Kim Hersch
 Roberta Holdsworth
 Rubye Jenkins-Husband ●
 Bozena (Bo) Iole ☎
 Marietta Kuehn
 Mary Ann Kupniewski

Irene Lampros ♦

Janet Laskowski
 Candace Littell
 Marilyn Livosky, Ph.D. ○
 Marsha MacKinnon ○☎

Roberta McCall ♦

Jeanne Miller
 Kristin Mooney ☎
 Jeri Pascale
 Tami Petrucelli
 Theresa Power-Natale ☎

Laurie Root ♦

Gera Ruhland ♦

Sue Sanders
 Mary Sansone ☎
 Peggy Schwab
 Amber Shenk
 Linda Stevenson ⌘
 Kim Stucke ●☎

Rebecca Styn
 Maria Sundberg ☎
 D. Elaine Surma
 Chris Tombaugh
 Rena Tran
 Debbie Trocki ○

Dawn Van Scoter ♦

Susan Vogelberger ♦

Valerie Weaver
 Susan Weiner
 Susan Wendel ○☎
 Diane Wilson ☎

Ann Marie Yezzi-Shareef, Ph.D. ♦

Eileen Zinchiak ○☎

Legend:

- ♦ New Member!
- ⌘ 2010 Woman of the Year
- Former Woman of the Year
- ☎ 2010-11 Board Member
- ❖ 2010-11 President
- Past President
- ⌘ Founding Member