

DE DIE IN DIEM

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE WESTERN MONTANA BAR ASSOCIATION

JUNE 2014

President's Message by Tal Goldin:

Relinquishing My Soapbox.

This will be my last message as President of the WMBA. My term officially expires in August, but we will take our usual hiatus in July and August. I will continue to serve on the Board as Immediate Past President next year, presumably as a lame duck and under the stern direction of Dave Steele.

Before my soap box is swiftly removed from under me, I want to take this opportunity to thank my colleagues on the Board and our membership for allowing me the honor to lead the WMBA over the past year. I truly enjoyed meeting so many of you at our luncheons, hearing your questions and concerns, and hopefully leaving the organization a little better than I found it.

In truth, I can only take small credit for the resurgence of the WMBA over the past several years. The real credit goes to the current and past Board members who have lead by example; our Pro Bono Committee and strategic partners; our luncheon and CLE presenters; and to all of you who have supported the WMBA through your membership, attendance, engagement and volunteerism.

I am excited to continue to watch the WMBA grow under our incoming board and hopeful for the opportunity to continue to serve the bench and the bar both locally and statewide. In your emails along with this Newsletter, please find a ballot, including the two open director-at-large positions on the WMBA Board. Please be sure to vote for two director candidates and return the ballot according to the instructions in the email.

I hope you will keep in touch as the Board transitions. You can reach me personally at tgoldin@wandmlaw.com and the WMBA Board at westernMTbar@gmail.com. Again, thank you and all the best.



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EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Please join the WMBA on
Thursday, June 19, 2014 at Noon
at the Florence Building Ballroom
for our last monthly luncheon of the 2013-14 membership
year**

Outgoing WMBA President, Tal Goldin, will present a talk entitled: *Collaborative Law and the Uniform Collaborative Law Act: an overview of a rapidly expanding alternative dispute resolution process.*

Collaborative Law is a voluntary, contractually based, dispute resolution process where the parties engage specially trained counsel for the limited purpose of negotiating and resolving a mutually beneficial solution to a particular dispute. The parties and their attorneys agree to work together to explore equitable solutions, retaining neutral experts as needed to assist in analyzing the issues and evaluating possible solutions. The carefully structured process is designed to promote open and full disclosure and collaborative problem solving in a confidential process outside of the adversarial court system and is particularly useful in cases where the parties will have a continuing relationship after resolution of the legal matter. The Uniform Collaborative Law Act codifies the minimum requirements for a Collaborative Law Process and related procedures.

Please RSVP to westernmtbar@gmail.com

Luncheons are at Noon in the Florence Building
\$15 member/\$20 for non-members.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, QUESTIONS, ADVERTISING INQUIRIES:

De Die In Diem is published monthly by the Western Montana Bar Association. It is designed and edited by WMBA secretary, Hannah Stone, in conjunction with the WMBA board. For announcements, questions and advertising inquiries contact Hannah Stone at hstone@bigskylawyers.com. The WMBA is not responsible for the content of any announcement or advertisement. The WMBA does not support or oppose any candidate for public office or public official. For advertisements and announcements please provide at least one week advanced notice. Thank you.

EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Election of Directors at Large

There are two positions open on the WMBA Board for directors at large to serve two-year terms. A ballot is attached in the email with this newsletter. Three candidates have requested consideration on the ballot. Their respective biographies are below. *Please vote for two directors and the other, uncontested, positions and return the ballot according to the instructions in the email.* Thank you.

Beth Hayes, Montana Legal Services Association

Beth Hayes graduated with a B.A. in History from the University of Montana in 2003. She worked at the Missoula Housing Authority for three years before attending the University of Montana School of Law. After graduating law school in 2009, Beth was an Equal Justice Works AmeriCorps Legal Fellow with Montana Legal Services Association (MLSA). After her fellowship ended, she worked as a Housing Staff Attorney with MLSA in Missoula, working primarily in federally subsidized housing and other landlord-tenant disputes. She also worked at MLSA as the Advice, Brief Services and Triage Staff Attorney for two years. Since July 2013, Beth's work at MLSA is primarily with its Foreclosure Assistance Project, assisting Montana homeowners in keeping their homes.

Katie Ranta, Beal Law Firm, PLLC

Katie graduated with honors from the University of Montana School of Law in May of 2008. Upon graduation, she was appointed law clerk to the Hon. Keith Strong, United States Magistrate Judge. After two years of service, Katie was then law clerk to the Hon. Mike Wheat, Montana Supreme Court Justice. Following that clerkship, Katie was an associate with the Trieweiler Law Firm in Whitefish, Montana. Katie joined Beal Law Firm in May of 2013 as an associate. She represents a variety of clients such as individuals, small Montana businesses, and insurance companies in all stages of litigation.

Phillip "Shad" Shadwick, Paoli Kutzman, P.C.

After attending the University of Texas at Austin, Shad worked in various positions at Farmers Insurance Group. In 2010, Shad graduated from the University of Montana School of Law and began practicing at Paoli Kutzman, P.C. In 2013, Shad was appointed to the federal CJA panel.

Like many attorneys, Shad sought a law degree to enable him to make a meaningful difference in the lives of others. Shad believes that our profession, unlike so many others, gives us the opportunity to do just that on a daily basis. Shad would be honored to help further this calling by joining the board of the WMBA.